





Gc 977 W36c v.5a

Letters to the Secretar, of
War, 1812

REFERENCES

LETTERS TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR

November-December. 1812

Allen County Public Library
120 W. Wayne, Indiana

November 1, 1812

796

No. 432

Fort Fayette

Novr. 1st. 1812.

Sir —

I have this moment receiv'd your letter of the 19th. Ult. & shall address & forward Supplies accordingly. The inclos'd are copies of the Invoices of articles ship'd to Newport &c. — ere this reaches you, you will have receiv'd several other bills of lading of stores, forwarded to your address at Wooster & Mansfield. I have anticipated your wishes as to "blankets & shoes" — watch coats, ' rifles, by sending them as soon as receiv'd, as I suppos'd they would be most wanted & usefull to the army, I shall in future Send you Copies of all Invoices as soon as I receive them. The stores & clothing now on hand will be forwarded as I have had the honor to say to you in all my late Communications, "as fast as Waggon's can be hidred and purchased for the purpose". -- But, it will not be easy to conceive the difficulties & perplexities I have to Surmount in this duty, arising out of the scarcity of Waggon's, as so many have been furnish'd to the two detachments of Militia assembled at Meadville & this place, & for the ordnance & ordnance stores, & others sent to your army. I must therefore request your Excellency to make the earliest arraignments in your power to take them from Cincinnati as the river is now on the rise, & as it will probably be the mean of your getting those supplies much sooner than you Could over-land hence. I hear with much regret of the want of ammunition in your Army; & should have given you powder much sooner, if it had not been suggested by Major Stoddard, as better to detain that article, & Send it on with the fix'd ammunition for ordnance.

I shall write by the next Mail to the Qr. Master at Philadelphia, & request him to have made & send out immediately such a Markee as you wish --

It will come sooner than the Materials & making can be procur'd at this place.

I have the honor to be Yr. Mo. Obt. Servent

H. Johnson

Lt. & A. D. Qr. M.

His Excellency

Genl. Harrison

Mansfield Ohio

* Invoices mention'd in this letter were copies, No. 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. & 7 of particulars sent to Newport Ky. the 25th of Augt. the 11th. 14th. 26th. & 30th. Sepr. 1812. Those Invoices describ'd the destination, the No. of packages, & the kind & quantity of articles in each. No. 8. 9. 10 & 11 were copies of Invoices, as I receiv'd them from Philadelphia; to shew the general what I had on hand & in prospect for him; — With some nack note as this & in some of the latter "part forwarded, & part on hand."

H. Johnston

Lt. & A. D. Qr. M.

Fort Fayette

Nov. 23rd, 1812.

November 1, 1812

950

No. 530.

Lexington 1st. Novr. 1812

Sir

Having understood that the Bank of Kentucky had sent one of its directors in consequence of a proposition from the Secretary of the Treasury, to bring out a pretty large supply of specie -- and having been told by Mr. Wilkins, the President of the branch Bank here, that the Mother Bank would make advances for bills on Government to the amount of 50000\$ on the strength of the proposed arrangement with the Secretary of the Treasury -- and knowing that Colo. Ruford Dpy Comr. Gl. was not in immediate want of Cash I had under these impressions calculated on being able to sell drafts to the Bank to the amount above stated, and had taken steps to lay out that sum in the purchase of Qr. Mr. Stores, Ox Teams, Pack Horses &c &c and had drawn bills in their favor for 20000\$ -- 5000\$ of which I took on to Urbanna and distributed with the Agents on the center and left wing of the army as I found them all destitute of funds -- When at Cincinnati I valued on you for 30,000\$ to divide amongst the Deputies on the three lines -- And now when I have made all my arrangements, and have men out purchasing ox Teams, and have already bought upwards of 120 Pack Horses, and procured such Qr. Mr. stores as would have been sufficient generally, for some months at least. I say after having as I thought, made arrangements which would enable me to facilitate the march of the army -- I am informed by Mr. Alexander that they cannot with safety make further advances -- You have herewith a copy of his letter -- I have but one alternative, which is, to make a direct application to the Kentucky Insurance Company (A Bank here under that name) and to the Branch here and another Bank in Frankfort, in my own name and on my own individual

11/1/12

responsibility, for a loan of 30,000\$ for 60 ds. I hope to succeed -- If I do not, must stop my purchases and wait until funds can be had.

I am distressed beyond measure at this unforeseen disappointment. Unless I have funds at my command I will not act as Depy Qr. Master; because I should be disgraced, and you my Good Sir, would not escape censure. Permit me to remark, that unless you establish an abundant fund, to which the public functionaries attached to the NW army, can have access under proper regulations, Genl. Harrison's army will in all probability be ruined. Perhaps you are disposed to ask what sum I would call a sufficient fund. If so I will answer, not less than One million of dollars, and before next March you may double this sum -- It is true, I have no certain data to govern my opinion, and may be wide of the true amount; but wish sincerely I may not be under what has been and will be expended before the ensuing summer.

You will Sir, I trust pardon the freedom with which I offer my opinion. I do not wish to offend, nor do I wish to do more than my duty -- but have a desire as long as yourself and the government have confidence in me, to exert myself to forward what I believe to be their views and interest. I cannot conclude this hasty, and already too long a scrawl, without reiterating that unless you take immediate steps to have placed in some of the Banks here 1,000,000\$ Genl. Harrison's army will be in want of supplies before the winter expires provided no fortunate occurrences intervene to prevent it.

You will hear by the mail that carries this, of the failure of Genl. Hopkins -- Heavens! march six days thro' an open country and not gain on the point of destination -- to bad, too bad indeed --

I have the honor to be Sir very respectfully your obt. Servt.

James Morrison

The Honble/ William Eustis. Secy of War

Nov. 3, 1812

No. 98.

Pittsburgh November 3d 1812

Dr Sir

I had the honor of receiving yesterday by your express your letter of the 28th October. Every thing in future shall be sent to the mouth of the Sciota -- And if you think proper I will remove from the Ware house opposite Georg Town whatever may be remaining there -- a second boat load was landed there on the 24th. the whole sent to that place is 236 Ell whisky 50 Ell flour, 50 Ell salt, 25 boxes soap & 8 boxes Candles. The carriage to Mansfield is high -- eight waggons have loaded for Wooster at no less than \$4 per hundared -- they have been directed to proceed to Mansfield to which place they will not haul under \$5.50, that is eleven dollars per bll for flour & whiskey &c in proportion

The road from Lisbon out, they say is bad & forage scarce -- several other Teams I expect have taken loads & started. After the receipt of your Letter of the 18th Octr. I hastened to conclude an agreement with an active responsible man living near Beaver who owns four Teams & who has engaged to Load ten or more with flour at mills on Little Beaver Creek & conduct the Teams himself to Mansfield -- he is to recieve \$110 for every ten Barrels of flour delivered at Mansfield & to continue to haul out 'till otherwise advised by me -- please to say if you think I had better remove to Sciota what may be remaining at the landing opposite George Town & If I shall discontinue this particular agreement for hauling flour.

The River has risen some -- to-morrow I will send off a Boat for the Sciota loaded with shiwey, 50 Ell Flour & 3 or 4000 wt of soap & Candles

I am Sir with very great respect your obedient servant

(signed) E Denny

General Wm Henry Harrison
Commanding
North Western Army
Worthington

JN 12/11/11

forwarded to Wooster & Mansfield the 10th 12th 18th & 29 ulto: and informed you in the last, that I had a quantity of Mil Stores to be forwarded to you and shall continue to send out such as I apprehend will be first wanted as fast as I can Hire and purchase Teams for the purpose What more could have been done to prevent the embarrassment of which you complain, nothing I can assure you by any one in my situation -- I doubt not however that your Excellency is very much embarrassed not that you will be much more, and more seriously so in the course of the Campaign -- The letters I have referred to prove the former, but your Excellency may rest assured that I shall do every thing that depends up[on] me to prevent the latter

I have the Honor &c

(Signed) H Johnson

D A Q Master

His Excellency

Genl Harrison

Mansfield, Ohio

November 3, 1812

798

433
No. 433

Fort Fayette

November 3rd. 1812.

Sir --

In your letter of the "27th. Sept. 1812" you directed all the supplies for the North western Army from the Qr. Master's Department at this place, to be sent by "George-Town New-liston & Canton to Wooster" in the State of Ohio. In your letter of the 19th October, you acknowledge the receipt of mine of the 10th October, incloseing Invoices of My. stores, forwarded to your address at Wooster, & in your letter of the 20th. October to Major Stoddard, you say, "I am very much embarrass'd in Consequence of my having receiv'd no information of the progress that has been made in forwarding the "supplies of Qr. Master Stores, & Cloathing, & the direction that those have taken which have allready been sent on"! -- This sould seem a self Contradiction, But, perhaps you meant those that were Sent on before the destination was alter'd to Wooster -- on the*25th of Sept. I had the honor to receive the Secretary's order to Comply with your requisitions -- I inform'd you of it in a letter of the same date, & concluded as follows -- "I have lately made several shipments of Military stores to New-port, & shall make another to day -- all of which will be subject to your order or that of the officer Commanding the North western Army" advices & Invoices of which were duly forwarded to the My. store keeper at that place. This letter I am told was sent to you by express from Newport to Piqua -- I suppos'd you were at Cincinnati from whence you had written

* 15th instead of the 25th Sept.

the 28th. August. The Secretary of War, you say, "incloses me a list of a very large supply which left Washington & Philadelphia some time ago -- for

my part I have duly advis'd you & inclos'd Invoices of the stores forwarded to Wooster & Mansfield the 10th. 12th. 18th. & 29th. Ult. & informed you in the last that, "I have a quantity of My. Stores to be forwarded to you, & shall continue to send out such as I apprehend will be first wanted as fast as I can hire & purchase teams for the purpose" --

What more could have been done to prevent the embarrassment of which you complain'd -- Nothing I can assure you, by any one in my situation -- I doubt not however, that your Excellency is "very much embarrass'd" nor that you will be much more, & more seriously so in the course of the Campaign. The letters I have refer'd to prove the former -- but your Excellency may rest assur'd that I shall do every thing that depends upon me to prevent the latter.

I have the honor to be Yr. Mo. Obt. Servent

H. Johnson

Lt. & A. D. Qr. M

His Excellency

Gen. Harrison

Mansfield Ohio

November 3, 1812

953

No. 532.

Lexington 3d Novr. 1812

Sir,

I beg leave to refer you to mine of the 1st inst. I have just returned from Frankfort, where I have with some difficulty succeeded in obtaining an advance from the Bank of Kentucky of 20000\$ — in notes of all descriptions, which I was very thankful to get in any thing in the character of money. I have borrowed here of the Kentucky Insurance Company, and of the Branch Bank, each 10,000\$ on my own negotiable notes payable 60 days hence with interest. These sums will enable me to complete the purchase of 200 Pack Horses, Q. M. Stores and from one to 200 Ox Teams, or nearly so. Do you my good friend adopt the means~~##~~ of putting me in plentiful funds to take up my notes. and discharge the requisitions of the commander in chief — You may perhaps think I am proceeding on too large a scale -- Will you only reflect that every thing is wanting -- 200 Ox Teams will cost at least \$56,000 or 280\$ ea. The Governemtn lose nothing by placing the funds I require in the Banks of the western country -- You may direct if you please, that I shall draw money from the Banks, only on the orders of the commander in chief. But funds must be provided, otherwise the objects of the government must fail.

To the right wing of the army I have already advanced near 30,000\$, and send to the Asst. Q M James F. Eubank to morrow, three drafts on your of 1000\$ ea. and I shall not be able to take a dollar with me to the centre and left wing of the army, more than about 8000\$ that I left in the Bank at Cincinnati. U have before stated that there is a very large sum due for the transportation on these two lines -- The owners of the Teams live about this place, and are becoming very clamorous because they cannot get their pay.

On tomorrow, or next morning at farthest I set out for the army. I hope to hear from you often, and as I go with the intention of using every effort to do my duty, have only to reiterate -- "Keep me in funds."

I have the honor to be Sir yr obt. M Hble Servt.

James Morrison

The Honble

William Gustis

Secy of War

P. S. I have this day ~~#####~~ valued on you for \$3000, in three drafts of \$1000 each, in favor of J. F. Eubank, who is the Qur. Master on the Right wing of the Army. I send these Drafts to him, with a hope that should he be out of Cash, he may be able to dispose of them to the Bank in Chilocothee -- J. M.

Since writing the above I have been compelled to Borrow of the Branch Bank in addition Ten thousand dollars, and am by Contract to repay it in Ten day with Interest, in specia which I have obtained from Col. Buford on Loan, on his order on the Cashier of the Chilocothee Bank. This arrangement became indispensable necessary to the public service -- Otherwise I should be unable to hire one Waggon and I am to proceed to the army. Those men who have Teams out with the army, are hanging round my Table, and so clamorous that unless I appease them by paying one of the two or three months their Teams have been in service, they would prevent all those who are about engaging to proceed. I am distracted with debts which accrued before my appointment. You must know that by making myself Individually responsible that I am doing all that is in my power to

prevent the public credit from Sinking. As a public officer I must be heard -- and you are bound to attend to my representations, otherwise say that I am unworthy public confidence. And believing you do not think I would represent my Situation other than it really is -- I must again be permitted to state that without funds I cannot perform what your Genl. Harrison, and the public expect, and have a right to expect from my Industry, and knowledge of what is necessary for an army situate as that now is, under the Command of Genl. Harrison. I tell you that the Expense of this army will be far, very far indeed beyond what you have believed -- and I must repeat that unless you provide ample funds -- the movements of the army will be retarded, and the objects of the Government blasted.

J. M.

November 3, 1812

940

No. 524.

Tuesday Morning Nov. 3d 1812

Sir

I enclose a paper which has been forwarded to me from two Citizens of Chillicothe "Ohio" and a Note from Colo. Miller -- the object of which arer to obtain a contract for furnishing rations to some of the Western posts.

Shou'd these persons proposals be acceptable I do suppose they would faithiully comply with their engagements -- as they are active Men.

Yours with gr at respect &c &c

Edward Tiffin

The Honble

The Secretary of War

This letter was bro't to the War Office by Mr Tiffin's clerk on the morning of the 3d of Novr.

14TH NOV 1.

November 4, 1812

No. 189.

Vincennes, Nov. 4th 1812

Sir,

In my last I had the honor of informing you, that Genl. Hopkins had arrive[d] at Fort Harrison, from whence he expected to start up the Wabash -- Since which time, his plans were so far changed that he started immediately across the Country from Fort Harrison direct for the Grand Kickapoo village in the Prairie -- The Inclosed letter from him to myself, will give you all the information I have officially received upon the subject of his Expedition from Fort Harrison towards the Kickapoos town, and back; And to this letter I beg leave to refer you. He, the General, is now preparing an Expedition from Fort Harrison (where he has his Head Quarters) to the Tippicanoe, with Three Regiments of Infantry & an hundred Rangers -- The 3 Regiments I allude to, are from Kentucky & will consist of about 1200 men) -- what his success may be, time alone will develop.

I am sorry to add, that the volunteer Riflemen who came from Kentucky, have tarnished the name American; not only by behaving like Paltroons, but by shamefully & basely plundering the Citizens wherever they passed their Farms.

I regret very much a circumstance which happened on Sunday last, about Fifteen miles from this place (in the Forks of White River). A party of Indians attacked Two waggons with Families moving And killed Two men, & wounded two others. A Detachment of Capt Parke's troop of Horse, under my Command, went in pursuit of the Indians the next day, but owing to the advance of the Enemy had, were not able to overtake them.

I have this moment been honored with your's of the 17th Ultio. Should I have occasion to draw for any further sums, I shall remit

you the proper Estimate.

Colo. Russell left this place some time ago & went to the Illinois -- He left Cahokia about the time Genl. Hopkins left Fort Harrison. He had under his Command 450 men, and was to proceed to Pioria on the Illinois River, there to form a junction with Genl. Hopkins. I am much afraid, from the fewness of his numbers, that some thing must have happen'd to him, as we have not yet hear'd from him.

I have the Honor to be, sir Your Obedt. & very Huble servt.

Jn Gibson

The

Honble

Will: Eustis

Secry. of War.

Nov 6, 1812

No. 55.

Zanesville Nov. 6th 1812

Sir,

Since my return, I find that a considerable body of troops have been and yet continue to be stationed around the Town of Mansfield on the head qaters of the Muskingum This force is considered necessary to protect the frontiers and without it many settlements would be abandoned. I would suggest to you the propriety of ordering a large portion of my regiment to relieve those troops. I find a very general wish among the Officers and men to continue during the winter actively employed. Drafting militia is an ungrateful and invidious business and ought to be resorted to only when the other forces cannot be obtained. The propriety of employing the Volunteers against the Indians cannot be questioned, and no enemy but an Indian will ever make his appearance in that part of the Country. Once given a man a taste of a military life and he ever after appears to be attached to it. Continue these men in service actively engaged ~~##~~ to the end of their terms and my life for it, nearly all of them will renew their engagements for another period. Should this plan be adopted, a supply of muskets will be very necessary, but if they cannot be supplied perhaps rifles may be here procured.

Very respectfully I am, Sir, yo. obt. sevt.

Lew Cass, Col. 3 R

[To Eustis]

THH/11/11/

Nov. 6, 1812

84

No. 56.

Zanesville Nov. 6. 1812

Private

Sir,

I have since my return made particular enquiry into the present situation and future aspect of affairs in this Country. Sorry I am to be compelled to say, they by no means appear so favourable as I could wish. I much doubt if anything is to be expected this fall. You may rely upon it, the militia are not to be depended for an offensive campaign. I really cannot describe to you the kind of field officers in the Regiment from this Division. Men without energy talents or weight of character. I am informed by persons from the Camp, that a spirit of insubordination is universally prevalent. With such officers and troops in such a situation Harrison can effect little.

I am well convinced the drafted militia will never cross the Detroit River. Such is the general opinion ~~at~~ species of force must be resorted to whose voluntary engagements will compel them to march to any point where ordered. I think with proper officers, proper exertions and a small alteration of the law, some Regiments of Volunteers could be raised in this state composed of the best young men in it. Should it be deemed necessary to raise them, I shall be happy to render any service in my power to promote the object.

Since the militia have been drafted the recruiting business has wholly ceased. Such large sums are given for substitutes, that the

bounty held out by Government is no inducement to enlist. Rely upon it that drafting must be abandoned for some species of voluntary engagement.

Very respectfully sir I am yo. obt. servt.

Lew Cass

[To Eustis]

November 6, 1812

793

429
No. ~~428~~

Fort Payette

November 6th. 1812

Sir --

Five Waggoners have been here several days with an hundred & fifty three Barrels of Navy powder & could find no one authorised to receive it. They were about to sell it -- I have paid the transportation & put it in store. It was sent by a Mr. Ewall from Washington -- Be pleased to tell me what I shall do with it?

I have the honor to be Yr. Mo. Obt. Servant

H Johnson

Lt & A. D. Qr. M.

The Honorable

William Eustis Esquire

Secretary of War

Washington City.

/// // / //

Nov. 7, 1812

No. 100.

Estimate &c -- Chillicothe Nov 7th. 1812

| | | |
|--|----------------|-----------------|
| 527 head cattle on hand since 26th. Oct. cost | \$11380.77 | |
| feeding -- say 10 lbs per head per day for | | |
| 30 days | 1611.00 | |
| hands | <u>200.00</u> | 13191.77 |
| 550 Head contracted for say at \$24 | 13200.-- | |
| feeding -- say 40 days | 2200.-- | |
| driving | <u>-200.00</u> | 15600.00 |
| 2000 Barrels flour -- this quantity will be made | | |
| by the 15th instant -- about 800 has been | | |
| forwarded, & considerable now ready in the | | |
| Mills, & going off | 9000.0 | |
| Extra for 100 half Barrels ordered | 500.00 | |
| Hauling 800 Ell. to Norton @ 2.50 | 2000.00 | |
| do 1200 " " @ 3.00 | 3600.00 | |
| Say if 1000 out of the 1200 are hauled to | | |
| Sandusky additional charge | <u>1200.00</u> | 16300.00 |
| 300 Barrels Salt -- 150 of which is on hand | | |
| balance expected in a few days | 3000.00 | |
| Hauling to Sandusky | <u>1500.00</u> | 4500.00 |
| 2000 Hogs, each 160 lb | 11200.00 | |
| keeping & driving | <u>1600.00</u> | <u>12800.00</u> |
| | | 362391.77 |

Owing to the scarcity of Flour in the upper Country Mr Waddle is directed to extend his purchases of that article wherever it can be got in Ohio -- he is also directed to purchase soap & candles and all the meat

Articles purchased by E. Denny at Pittsburgh & forwarded
from thence direct --

236 Barrels Whiskey Sent to mouth of

little Beaver, opposite George Town, to
be transported to Mansfield -- cost each \$16 3776.00

Transportation to Mansfield about 18 4248.00

51 Barrels Salt Sent to Little Beaver 406.00

Transportation same as whiskey 918.00

Soap 2982 lb. sent to Little Beaver 300.00

Candles 653 lb. Sent do 130.00

50 Bll flour Do 250.00

Hauling Soap, Candles & flour out to Mansfield
will cost about 766.00

442 Barrels of Whiskey sent from Pittsburgh 7072.00

to mouth of Sciota

freight to Sciota paid 442.00

Hauling from Sciota to upper Sandusky

50 Bll flour sent to Sciota 250.00

paid freight of do 37.50

Hauling out from Sciota

3496 lb. Soap Sent to Sciota 349.60

611 lb. Candles sent do 122.00

freight of Soap & Candles to Sciota 15.00

\$ 19,084.10

E Denny has contracts for flour & whiskey not yet delivered --

an advance of Cash in some cases has been made on account.

Nov. 8, 1812

1263

Mo. 704.

Head Quarters

Huron Nov. 8th 1812

Hon. Wm. Eustis

Sir

Your letter of the 24th. Oct. was received by the last express, with a blank letter of appointment of an assistant deputy Quarter Master, which I have filled with the name of Lieut. Ensign Church, and have recd. the necessary bonds as required, and have directed him on the necessary duty of his office

On his estimate which I enclose, have drawn one bill for one hundred thousand dollars to defray the necessary expences of the department. I have also drawn one other bill of eighty Thousand dollars in favour of the district pay Master Mr Huntington -- The troops of this detachment are much dissatisfied in not being paid equal with the other departments of the army. It has become hard to satisfy them longer without pay. This doubtless will excuse the draft to the paymaster I forwarded some time since, A bill to Major Stodard at Pittsburgh in favour of Lieut. Clendenen for two thousand dollars, for transporting the munitions of war from Pittsburgh to this place he has this day arrived -- shall have his account adjusted in a few days

I have the Honor to be sir Your Obedt. Servt.

Elijah Wadsworth

Majr. Genl., 4th Division Ohio Militia

W. H. Wadsworth

Nov. 9, 1812

No. 94.

Pittsburgh Nov. 9th. 1812

Sir

I have the honor to enclose to you copies of two Letters from General Harrison, dated the 16th & 28th October -- also the copy of a letter from Major Hart, the Generals Aid De Camp, to my agent at Chillicothe -- and a copy of my last to the General.

The navigation of the Ohio is now good -- I shall send off another Boat this week for the Sciota, loaded with Flour & Whiskey -- and every thing Sir, thats possible shall be done to get the supplies forward. One Thousand Beeves have been purchased in Ohio & are ready to be driven to St Dusky -- they wait the orders of the General -- Flour has been going out from Mills near Chillicothe for some time -- Two thousand barrels (in the whole) is expected will be received at these mills before the end of this month -- It will be an object to get as much flour from there as possible, on account of the transportation, which is a heavy charge.

I have to request another Draft from the Treasurer as soon as Convenient -- a faithful application shall be made, but it will be some time before I can transmit proper accounts of the supplies & disbursements for the North Western Army. The two Brigades of Militia I have furnished on to Mansfield & to Buffaloe & the abstracts &c for them I expect to recieve in time to include in my account for the quarter ending with this month.

I am Sir with the greatest respect Your Obedient Servant

E Denny

P.S. General Tannehill marched from Meadville on the 2nd instant, and General Crooks on the same day lay within nine miles of Wooster.

/// // //

The honorable

William Eustis

Secretary of War

November 9, 1812

664

No. 345.

Harrison to Eustis, Nov. 9, 1812, see: vol. I, p. 48.

November 9, 1812

669

No. 349.

Head Quarters Huron River Nov. 9th 1812

Brigadier Gen Perkins

Sir

It is my duty to state to you that it will be out of the power of the Contractor to furnish the number of Rations required by Gen Harrison. As there had been considerable quantities of provisions deposited at Sandusky, Miami, River Resin, and Detroit, for the supply of the army and as these provisions has fallen into the hands of the Enemy in consequence of the Capitulation by Gen Hull, and as the Contractor has not received any notice from the War department, for any further supplies, he does not consider himself bound by his contract to furnish them.

He feels confident that a concurrence of circumstances which render it impossible (at this late season) to comply with the requisition will justify this construction of the Contract. The navigation of the lakes which have been heretofore employed in transporting provisions to the Army, has for several months past been exclusively in possession of the Enemy except for small boats. The posts required to be supplied have been for several months and still continues in possession of the Enemy, surrounded by a wilderness on one hand and a desolated country on the other.

My Instructions from the Contractor seems to be dictated from a full consideration of ~~all~~ these circumstances

It would be beyond my instructions to attempt to supply the army at Sandusky or any place beyond.

I will however in behalf of the Contractor continue to furnish such quantities of provisions as may be in my power, to be delivered in

bulk after the army leaves this place, the public paying the expence, of transportation of flour and Whiskey after it apsses Cleveland, and this I will continue to do until otherwise instructed. In order to give you the best Idea in my power, of the situation and quantity of flour and whisky we have on hand I will state that there are

In Camp say of Flour 100 Barrels

on board of boats whisky & flour 390

At Erie by best estimation 460

950

The flour and whisky in boats may be expected shortly at least the greater part of it. In this case it may be possible that they may make another trip to Erie this fall if the Weather should continue Warm, -- of meat we have enough

I am Sir Respectfully your Obt Servt

For the Contractor

Signed

Saml Tupper

Presque Isle

November 10, 1812

671

No. 350.

(Extract)

"Camp at Avery, Novr. 10th. 1812

His Excellency

Wm. H. Harrison, Esq.

Sir,

Inclosed is a Duplicate of a Communication received from S. Tupper, Esq. Agent for the contractor Porter, which I deem of importance to advise you of immediately. Mr. Tupper arrived in Camp on the sixth inst. and lamented that he could not have seen you -- since his return I have conversed with him sundry times on the subject of furnishing the Troops at Sandusky with provision, and have at length obtained this statement and have made no agreement to his proposals of paying for transportation from Cleaveland -- not feeling myself authorized to vary an existing contract; However, improper it may be in ordinary cases to pay a man a premium on his own contract, it may in this perhaps be advisable to make some allowance on condition of extra exertion -- but of this you will judge and please to advise. Mr. Tupper has not received any instructions from Mr. Porter since you was here, and not knowing what Mr. Porter will advise he (Mr. Tupper) will continue to forward on provision untill otherwise instructed. I have offered to afford Mr. Tupper every aid in my power by assisting him with men for his boats, &c. -- I feel mortified to inform you that I am still at Huron, and think it will be several days before any movement will be made toward Sandusky.

The delay is by Genl. Wadsworth deemed necessary in order to hold a Court Martial on Genl. Beall, and a Court will not be convened before tomorrow, as Genl. W. is disposed to have all the field officers in the Detachment on the Court, and Col. Andrews will not be in Camp sooner.

No unnecessary delay shall be made after the command is committed to men, and to have that done as expeditiously as possible, I have not at any time, neglected to urge it; but Genl. Wadsworth's opinion as expressed, is, that there is now no duty to be attended to so important as this trial. A Scout has been to Sandusky who reports that, there is now there a considerable quantity of Corn, one or two thousand Bushels of which I hope to secure. I have proposed to send out a Detachment of 100 or 150 men to take provision and receive the property which will I fancy be done in a few days, and if we meet with no unexpected delay in the Court Martial will make a general movement for Sandusky in six or eight days -- a party are now out exploring and marking the road."

From Perkins, Samuel.

November 10, 1812

667

No. 348.

Camp Near McArthurs Block house Nov 10

5 OClock Morning [1812]

Sir

Conceiving it would be a great satisfaction to you and of much interest to the service to obtain information of the operations of the Enemy at the upper end of Lake Erie I ordered Capt Wood who Commands a Company of Spies to proceed to the Rapids, & if possible bring off a prisoner -- Capt. Hinkton returned last evening with Capt. Thomas A Clark a british Subject who resides two miles above Malden, and was out with a party of 500 Indians & about 50 British gathering Corn in the Corn from the fields at the rapids -- Capt. Hinkton was but two days in returning to this Camp -- The enemy had not yet landed excepting a part of the advance, when Capt. Hinkton took the prisoners They had brought two gun Boats, one Schooner & six or seven Batteaus to transport the Corn to Malden -- I wrote Genl Winchester immediately apprising him of this force, but upon reflection found it would require upwards of two days for the spies to deliver the letter; That it would be three days or near it before Genl Winchester could commence his march & in that time I could be there with a force equal if not superior to that of the Enemy -- This Sir, has determined me to order this detachment to draw five days provisions & with their Knapsacks and blankets, only march this day for the Rapids, My only fear is that it may not meet your entire approbation. But considering it of the utmost consequence if possible to save that forage -- That a day was all important, that our Troops were anxious to hazard the fatigues and danger of the

expedition & that from the information of Capt. Clark (upon the truth of which I assured him his life depended) we might in all probability surprise the enemy; These considerations have induced me to take upon myself the responsibility of the moment -- I take with me one field piece, a light six pounder, drawn by six active horses -- If we find this force there I am in hopes those Gun Boats will not get an opportunity of returning to Malden -- I send Capt. Clark to you in the Charge of Mr Selby.

I am very respectfully &c

Signed

Edw W Tupper B Gen

P.L

Genl W H Harrison

Com in Chief

N W Army

Nov. 14, 1812

No. 41.

Vincennes Novr. 11th. 1812

Sir

Having been honored by General Harrison on the 25th of Sept at Piqua with the appointment of D Q M G to the Indiana & Illinois Territories and ordered to proceed on to this place without any delay to commence the duties of my office, without any instructions for my government, (^{owing ~~to~~ to the extreme pressure of business upon the General at the time of my departure}) upon my arrival I found the Quarter Masters department in great confusion created by the number of persons employed in the department for the Territory and those belonging to the Ky. Troops. The contention for rank want of funds by either party to render any material aid to the army, the[?] many debts have been created, and requisitions made of me for their payment, which I have been compelled to refuse for want of such vouchers as I deemd indispensible and the want of instructions as to the propriety of obeying the requisitions of His Excellency Genl Gibson acting Governor of the Territory. Having supposed the Territorial Troops under command of Genl. Hopkins as soon as brought into the field. I supplied them with everything required by the commandants of Regts. in the absence of the Genl. and acquainted the Genl therewith, who directed me not to disburse any monies drawn by him except by his special order, Having communicated this to Genl. Gibson he said unless I continued to furnish supplies for his Troops he should appoint another person and draw for funds, Thus Sir I ~~am~~ am intirely ~~in~~formed as to the ~~course~~ course he persued, and ~~hope~~ you will see the necessity of laying down a general system for my government, and in case my appointment should be confirmed, that you will have the goodness to cause the ~~necessary~~ necessary

forms for the exhibition of my accounts to be forwarded to me as soon as convenient and should my office be of any duration, that I may have at least two assistants appointed, in as much as I find it impossible to perform the duties enjoined on me by Genl. Hopkins of Purchasing commissary without some aid, and There is no officer of the line Stationed in either of the Territories, from whom I could recieve any assistance, except Lt Thos. Richardson who cannot be spared from the command of Fort Knox, and the Act[?] creating the Quarter Masters department precludes an appointment out of the line. I have also to request some instructions as to the manner of exhibiting my accounts for the purchase of provisions, which have been tolerably extensive and I am apprehensive must continue as the contravtor is not calculated to procure upon an extended scale having been brought up to trading in a small way with indians (and calculated to lay in his supplies for goods at double price, which aded to the persons whom he has in his employement, who have entirely forfeited all confidence reposed in them by the army and citizens from a belief that they are inimical to the government that it is with difficulty they can make purchases of any discriptions.

Genl. Gibson requests I sho ld Join him in requesting the removal of Fort Knox to this place which if I may be permitte to hazzard an opinion is not in its present situation calculated to render any assistance to the Town or country; being situated three and a half miles from Town unconnected with any settlement nearer than Vincennes and so constructed as to form no barier against an enemy. the soldiers Huts which are made of small logs erected[?] in a rough manner with clabboards and only about seven feet in height forming a part of the curtain and unsupported by Block Houses and the space

enclosed large enough for the defence of a Regt. Yet having materials enough if properly put together to form a tolerable good Garrison, and to this Sir a place of security for the public Stores in Town is very essential, and I conceive the citizens in eminent danger of being murdered as soon as the Troops are gone from the Town, I have the honor to be very respectfully yr obedient humble Servt

Thos. L. Butler DQMG

The Honble W Eustis

Secretary at War City Washington

~~WILLIAM~~

November 11, 1812

354

No. 191.

Vincennes Nov. 11th 1812

Sir,

I have the honor of herewith enclosing you a Letter to your Address received here by Colo. Russell's Express; which I presume is from him.

I also herewith transmit you the Copy of a letter from that Gentleman to myself -- in which he details the very pleasing information of the Destruction of One of the Kickapoos Towns on the Illinois river; And to which, I beg leave to refer ##### you.

Genl. Hopkins in his Letter to me Dated "Fort Harrison, Nov. 8th" states that he intended starting immediately, up the Wabash -- That he had been delayed in consequence of the great quantities of Rain which had fallen in that quarter -- and that he was fearful his movements would be much retarded in consequence of the height of the waters.

It pains me to give the disagreeable news of the Murder of two more of our Citizens -- In the settlements on Driftwood on the 29. Ult. a Mr. Buskirk was killed, and on the 31st. a ##### Mr. Sturgeon; and what is something uncommon, the Indians did not scalp them.

In my first Letter to you upon the subject of the removal of Fort Knox, I mentioned the thing as having been recommended by Governor Harrison and Colo. Miller. I have just now been informed by the acting quarter Master at this place, that he does not conceive the U.S. property in Safety in any place he can procure in Vincennes, and that its extremely inconvenient for him to attend at Fort Knox; wherefore he requested of me, the removal of Fort Knox, or that I should recommend the measure to you:

Suffer me therefore, to give you my opinion that the removal of the Garrison from Fort Knox to Vincennes, under the direction of Such person as you may think proper to appoint, will be a measure much conducive to a tranquilization of the minds of the Citizens here and be a considerable

Saving to the United States. In its present Scite & state it cannot
K afford the least cover or relief to the country.

I have the Honor to be, With high considerations of Respect &
Esteem, Your Obedient, and Very Huble servt.

Jn Gibson

The Honble

William Eustis

Sec'ty. of War

November 14, 1812

800

No. 437.

Head Quarters Franklinton

November 14th. 1812.

Sir.

Your letters of the 1st. & 3rd Instant were received last night -- The insulting tenor of the latter has not been unnotic'd, And altho if I were to consult my private feelings I should equilly disregard the rudeness of your observations -- and the disposition towards me which gave rise to them.

Consideration of Military propriety have dteremined me to transmit a Copy of your letter and some of the documents attending it to the Secretary of War, who will determine how far the latter is consonant to the respect which is due from a Subaltern to his General, or the latter Calculated to remove those embarrassments of which I complain, and to which you have promised me so large an addition ## in the Course of the Campaign.

The several articles which you may in future forward for the use of the North-western Army will be addressd to the heads of those Departments ~~#####~~ respectively to which such supplies appertain and not to me --

I am Your Haml. Servt.

(Sign'd) Willm. Henry Harrison

Lieut. Johnson A. D. A. Master

Pittsburgh

a littleral copy H. J.

November 15, 1812

665

No. 346.

Harrison to Eustis, Nov. 15, 1812, see: vol. I, p. 49 ff.

November 16, 1812

678

No. 354.

Tupper to Harrison, Nov. 16, 1812, see: vol. V., Part 1, pp. 278 ff.

November 13/1812

666

No. 347.

Harrison to Eustis, Nov. 17, 1812, see; vol. I, p. 53.

Nov. 18, 1812

1264

No. 705.

Pittsburgh 18th. Novr. 1812

Honr. Wm. Eustis

Sir

According to my instructions from Majr. Genl. Elijah Wadsworth I had presented the draft in my favour as Asst. D Q M to Mjr. Stodard at this place, but get not relief, and am necessitated to return without any money to defray the necessary expences arising in the Quartermaster department, and I am fearfull that the troops now under Gen. Wadsworth will not be able to march from their present encampment, for want of means of conveyance, as we have been now three months entirely on credit. the people are getting somewhat, fearull of giving a further credit, immediate, assistance appears to be necessary,

I have the honor to be your Obt. Servt.

Ensign Church, A.D.Q.M.

[To Eustis]

/// /// /// /

Nov. 18, 1862

No. 99.

Pittsburgh Nov 18th. 1862

I had the honor of enclosing to you on the 9th instant copies of two letters from General Harrison to me, & one from his Aid De Camp Major Martin to John Waddle my agent at Chillicothe -- These were on the subject of the supplies for the North western army.

In my Letter Sir, I requested that another draft from the Treasurer might be sent me as soon as convenient -- I am more particular on the score at present as our Banks have refused giving cash for eastern Bills. My funds are now reduced, and Mr. Waddle my agent at Chillicothe is drawing upon me weekly for the purchases he makes & for disbursements on account of transportation & other expenses. Herewith Sir, is the copy of an Estimate of the purchases &c made in Ohio, received last week -- this I requested, in order that I might provide for the payments -- I have added to the Estimate what has been actually forwarded from this place -- besides sir, I have expended considerable in furnishing the two Brigades of Militia while in Pennsylvania and on their march to Mansfield in Ohio & to Buffalo in New York.

There is Sir, a balance of 30 or 40,000 dollars to the credit of the Treasurer of the United States in the Branch Bank at this place, but the officers of the Bank will pay only upon a direct Order -- for instance, they would not pay the Treasurers Draft favor of Lieut. M. Johnson on the Bank of Penna (which is in Pha.), this they considered as Eastern paper, and their orders lately recieved from the Bank in Pha. is to take no Eastern paper.

I am Sir with the greatest respect your Obedient Servant

E Denny

The Honorable
William Eustis
Secretary of War.

*November 18, 1812*No. 432.

Fort Fayette

November 18th. 1812.

Sir --

When I had the honor to write to you on the Subject of funds the 28th. Ult. the office of Discount & deposit expected to receive a Supply of Specia in a short time from Philadelphia, & the Pittsburgh Manufacturing Company had promis'd to accept my drafts to the amount of their occasions for eastern remittances & to give me eastern notes to support the Credit of my due bills, & meet any urgent Contingencies that might occur in the Course of my duties. The specia has not yet arriv'd; & altho it is near at hand, it will not be in, in time to meet a demand that will be made me tomorrow for a Contingent fund for the Detachment of Waggon's that will move the next day, with ordnance & stores for the North western Army; nor, can any officer of this institution inform me whether I could be accommodated immediately after its arrival. The P. M. Company has kept its promise; & generously advanc'd me thirty four thousand dollars, over & above its occasions for eastern bills, & since I had the honor to advise you of the draft of the 2nd. Inst., under the expectation that arrangements would have been made with the bank of Pennsylvania to meet my demands at its office of discount & deposit in Pittsburgh, or, that you would be pleased to order an immediate deposit of specia into the Vault of the P.M. Company, to reimburse the sums already advanc'd, & to meet the future demands of the Q. Masters department at this place; -- and under this expectation it will advance tomorrow the sum necessary for the movement of the Waggon's, & Continue to give such other accommodations as may be necessary to the interests of the service. If the suppos'd arrangement has not been made with the Penna. bank; I beg leave to remark, that the P. M. Company would much

prefer a deposit of Silver. -- Gold is a legal tender, & serves the purposes of banking institutions in their transactions with each other; -- but, they find it extremely difficult, if not impracticable to get it in to general circulation -- Individuals who receive bank notes present them for Silver; & if they are not accommodated, it prevents the free Circulation of notes, upon which the interests of those institutions depend.

I have already had the honor to inform you of the accommodating dispositions of the officers of the office of discount & deposit. The accommodations of the P. M. Company, are evidences of the Zeal & disinterestedness of this infant institution to these I beg leave add an expression of the politeness & attention of the Chief clerk, in all my transactions with the Company.

I have the honor to be Yr. Most obedient Servant

H. Johnson

Lt & A D Qr Master

The Honorable
William Eustis Esquire
Secretary of War
Washington City

November 18, 1812

1101

No. 619.

Pittsburgh 18th Novr. 1812.

Sir,

I have had the honor to receive your favor of the 11th instant.

The wagons, loaded with specie, arrived here on the 15th and# yesterday left this place for Cincinnati, with Genl. Findlay, and Lieuts. Henshaw and ~~John~~. I employed the latter Gentleman to assist in poloting the Boat down the river -- especially as the water was rather low, and as no good pilot was to be had.

All my carriages and fixed ammunition are now ready to move -- and they will elave this to-morrow, if the 'very heavy rain, which is now falling, with permit. The number of teams will be upwards of sixty. They will be under the charge of Captain Gratiot -- and Capt. Wheaton will supply them with forage on the route. As the Cannon ~~###~~ are now with Genl Harris n -- and as part o f our heavy stores have been sent by water to the mouth of the Scioto, the teams will be light loaded -- of course they will soon join the army at Mansfield, 155 miles from this place. Capt Gratiot has labored with me in preparing every thing, and is acquainted with every article, and its uses. I hope it will be believed, that every things has been done by me, which it was in the power of any one man to do. I will soon enclose you an Invoice of the several articles I have furnished.

As yet I have only partially settled up accounts -- indeed I have found it extremely difficult to procure money on Drafts -- the fact is, that the two Banks in this place have been completely drained. As I have not received my outstanding accounts, I am unable to ascertain their aggregate amount -- but I have drawn on the Dept. of war in favor of Stephen Earlow, for 5,000 Dollars, which I hope will be sufficient to pay

~~XX/XX/XX/XX~~

the demands against me. If there be any surplus, I will pay it over to Lt. Johnson, and take the necessary receipts.

I somewhat regret the necessity, which obliges me to join the Northwestern army -- because I shall have to act almost wholly with Militia, in whom I have no confidence -- because I doubt whether my constitution will not sink under the fatigues of a winter campaign in the wilderness -- and, principally because the whole of my baggage is now in Washington City. I have written to have it sent on with all possible dispatch -- and hope, that I may be permitted to remain here till its arrival. I brought with me a scanty supply of summer clothing, only, and am, therefore, almost destitute. I shall be ready to overtake the army before it reaches Detroit -- for it seems to be agreed, that the teams attached to the army cannot pass the swamps till after some severe frosts -- perhaps in January.

I am aware, that Genl. Harrison has not with him a single artillery officer or soldier of the regular army -- it will be in vain to make artillerists of militia in so short a period as we# shall have, without good officers -- and therefore I deem it my duty to suggest a remedy. Lieut. Craig informs me, that the three Companies of Col. Izard's Regiment, now in Philadelphia, are nearly completed. If Col. Izard was directed to form a full Company for Captain Hindman, I am persuaded it would be able to overtake Genl. Harrison in season to act at Detroit, or in Upper Canada. Should any men be sent from Philadelphia, permit me to request to have sent out by them about 50 or an 100 Dozen of post fires[?]. I have not had the means of making them here -- and depend wholly on slow match.

Lieut. Craig, who guarded out the specie, wishes to join me, with the 14 men with him -- as also Lieuts. Lawrence of the 22d. Regiment, who is waiting here for orders. They are both enterprising young men -- the latter

is grandson to Genl. St. Clair. Captain Shoals of the 2d. Regiment of Artillery, is on the recruiting service at Beaver -- but I believe he has obtained only one man. "As long as the militia are kept in the field, few or no recruits can be obtained, in this quarter, for the regular army.

As I have mounted the five 18's, as contemplated, for Genl. Harrison -- what is to be done with the other fifteen. I have procured most of the timber, and the wheels are now making at a stipulated price. As the Artificers at this place will not abandon their customers to work for the public, I cannot hope, that these carriages will be completed, before the spring. Besides, fixed ammunition of every kind, slow match, tubes &c. ought to be prepared for them. Lieut. Johnson is totally ignorant of every part of this business. The only person here capable of it, is Major Isaac Craig -- and I presume he would engage to superintend the work till finished. If these Carriages should be wanted in the spring, a suspension of the work would be extremely hazardous.

As it becomes expedient to resign my appointment of D.Q.M. I beg, that this resignation may be accepted to take effect, if agreeable, on the first of next month. In the mean time I shall prepare my accounts, and transmit them for settlement.

I am, sir, with sentiments of high respect, your very humbly servt.

Amos Stoddard, maj.

1st. Regt. Artillery --

Honl. Wm. Eustis, Esqr.

Secy of Dept. of war

Nov. 19, 1812

677

No. 353.

A list of Staff Appointments made by His Excy Wm H. Harrison Commander
in Chief of the North Western Army by authority of the President of the
United States

| Names | Rank | Corps to which they belong |
|--------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------|
| Nath F Adams | Captain | 4th Regiment U.S. Infantry |
| Nath G. S. Hart | Ditto | 5th Regiment Kentucky Volunteers |
| Robert Butler | Ditto | 24th Regt. U. S. Infantry |
| David Gwynne | 1st Lieutenant | 19th Regt " " |
| Robert T. Richardson | | |
| Charles Madiss | | |
| Robert McCall | | |
| Melancton S. Pettit | | |
| Appointment | | Date |
| Deputy Adjutant General | | August 26th 1812 |
| Deputy Inspector General | | October 5. 1812 |
| Assist Depy Adjt General | | October 5. 1812 |
| Paymaster 19th Regt. U.S. Infy | | October 7. 1812 |
| Deputy Commissary of Ordnance | | Novr. 18th. 1812 |
| Conductor of Artillery | | Ditto |
| Surgn. Mate 12 Mo. Volunteers | | Nov. 19th 1812 |
| Ditto | Ditto | Ditto |

November 20, 1812

681

No. 356.

Harrison to Eustis, Nov. 20, 1812, see: vol. I, p. 55.

November 29, 1812

676

No. 3521

Harrison to Eustis, Nov. 20, 1812, see: vol. I, p. 54.

Nov. 29, 1812

No. 222-23.

Head Quarters Huron November 20th 1812

Sir

I send you herewith an account of the expence which hath accrued in transporting munitions of war from Pittsburgh to the Portage on Cuyahoga River -- by which you will perceive that an unexpended ballance of the Two Thousand Dollars by me drawn for, for that use, remains in my hands amounting to the sum of Three hundred & nineteen dollars & eighty five cents, which I propose to apply in part payment of the expence of transportation from the Portage to this place all the vouchers of the account of expenditure shall be forwarded if desired.

I have in obedient to your directions of Septr. 4th calld. out 1500 men from my division, most of them have now been in service on the Frontiers nearly three months, one Regiment is organized & marched to the lower Sandusky -- the residue are in this camp, they also would be this week at Sandusky, if we had any provision for them, but the Contractor after some time dealing out damaged flour is now entirely out of that miserable article, when to this is added that since the troops were first called out they had received no pay, you will appreciate the difficulty of keeping them together & the delay (incident to such a situation of things) in completing the arrangement you have directed -- I trust however that within a week I shall be able to cause the residue of the troops from my division to join their bretheren at Sandusky & give up the command of them to Ge l. Harrison

Very Respectfully Sir Your Obedient Servt.

Elijah Wadsworth

Majr. Genl. 4th Division Ohio Mila.

[To Eustis]

Nov. 20, 1812

1272

No. 711.

Camp 5 Miles below the mouth of the

Auglaze 20th Nov. 1812

Sir.

Yours of the 21st Inst is received: I am sorry to inform your Excellency that the 17th Regiment is still without winter clothing, and that their summer dresses are in rags; most of them without shoes to their feet: notwithstanding in high spirits, and anxious to advance. I hope Sir, you will do me the justice to believe, that the detention of this wing of the N.W. army in the neighbourhood of this place, for more than forty days, has been owing to causes not within my controul.

I moved the army to this place, for the convenience of firewood, and dry land to encamp upon. At the Fort, twenty odd teams were employed in haling fuel -- and they became so weak, that I found it necessary to send them to the settlement to recruit. Horses cannot live here at this season of the year without forage; and I have not had a bushel for them, since the Army left Fort Wayne.

Mr. William O. Butler, lately appointed Ensign in the Second United States Regiment, is now here, and hath requested me to solicit your Excellency to annex him to the 17th. Regiment, if there is a vacancy; and at any rate he is very desirous to remain with this army, during the winter -- He is a young Gentleman of cleaveriness, and I am persuaded will make a good officer.

A small scout just returned from the Rapids, report, that to the best of their judgment, from the magnitude of the camp, which they viewed in the night, there are at that place seven or eight hundred Indians, and a few British -- There spies are about every day, watching our motions, and are frequently seen -- altho' latterly, without effect on either side --

/// /// /// ///

No. 712.

I have the Honor to be with High respect Your Obt. Servt.

J Winchester B Genl

Com L W~~h~~ N W Army

His Excellency

Wm. Eustis

Secretary at War

Nov. 23, 1812

683

No. 358.

Mansfield

Nov. 23, 1812

Sir,

In compliance with your wish, and at the request of Capt. Wm. Piatt Depy. Qr. . . Genl, I have proceeded thus far (from Pittsburgh) with Twenty One ps. of ordinance. Say 5 Eighteen pounders, 8 Twelves -- 6 Sixes & 2 5 1/2 Inch Howitzers. Many difficulties have occurred on the march. They have been surmounted, and it would be useless to recount them. The Ordinance have been placed under the charge of a field Officer of the Militia, for Sandusky, distant forty miles, the Country thro' which they will travel being generally high no difficulty is apprehended on the march to impeded their progress.

At the invitation of Genl. Harrison, I shall proceed to morrow to join him (as a part of his mily family) at Franklington.

Very respectfully yr Ob Sevt

L. Hukill

Lt. Dragoons

Honl.

Wm Eustis

Secty of War

November 23, 1812

795

No. 437.

Fort Fayette

November 23rd 1812.

Sir 00

I have just receiv'd the letter of which the inclos'd No. 2 is a Copy from Genl. Harrison. I have not time to take transcripts from my letter & Invoice books, that would clearly demonstrate to you the perspecuity, [?] Zeal, & diligence of my conduct in this department; nor if I had time should I trouble you with those transcripts, unless directed to lay them before you. I must, however, beg leave to present to you the inclos'd Copy's No. 12. of my letters of the 1st & 3rd Inst. to which the general alludes, & to request an opportunity to substantiate my claim to the reputation of a Zealous, prompt, & correct officer?-- And in this I am assur'd I shall be indulg'd, -- by the ease & pleasure with which I have serv'd under your administration -- by the Satisfaction I have had the honor to render to your department, & above all -- by the conviction -- I entertain of your sacred regard to justice & the honor of a Soldier. In the mean time I shall go on with the duties of the office, to the utmost of my abilities for the interests of the Service. I am now making out, & shall soon have the honor to lay before you complete abstracts of the issues to the Northwestern Army, & to the Militia from this deposit.

I have the honor to be Yr. Mo. Obt Servant

H. Johnson

Lt. & A. D. Qr. M.

The Honorable

William Eustis Esqr

Secretary of War

Washington City.

November 23, 1812

801

No. 435.

Fort Fayette

November 23rd. 1812.

Sir --

I have receiv'd your letter of the 14th Inst. & shall content myself for the present, to await the secretary's determination on the subject of your representation. In the mean time, the articles forwarded to the Northwestern Army will be address'd as you have directed.

I have the honor to be Yr. Mo. Obt. Servent

H. Johnson

Lt. & A. D. Qr. M.

His Excellency

Genl. Harrison

Franklinton

Ohio —

///

November 24, 1812

1108

No. 623.

Canton (Ohio) November 24th. 1812

Sir

As the volunteer army of Ohio passed through this place in the months of August and September last on their return from Detroit they were destitute of provisions or the means to procure them. On application of the officers I agreed to advance money sufficient to furnish them to their homes. I have received regular provision returns properly authenticated but am at a loss to know where I am to apply to have my money refunded -- If you Sir would be so obliging as to inform me how I am to proceed it will confer on me a particular favour --

I am Sir very respectfully your Obt. Sert

John Sloane

Hon. Wm. Eustis Esqr

Sec of war

November 24, 1812

No. 620.

Pittsburgh 24th. Nov. 1812

Sir,

I now have the honor to enclose you an Invoice of the Ordnance supplies, which I have forwarded to General Harrison. Few particulars are enumerated -- but the number of the Boxes &c. and their contents as noted will be sufficient to give an idea of my labors here. I have no one to assist me, except Major Craig -- to whom a compensation is due. Capt. Gratiot assisted me after his arrival -- but his services were mostly limited to the fixed ammunition.

Lieut. Johnson informs me, that Genl. Harrison has represented his conduct to the department of war in an unfavorable light -- and he has requested me to state what I know of his official transactions since my arrival here. I beg leave to premise, that I am totally unacquainted with the facts relating to the points in dispute between those Gentlemen. All I can say is, that such as I found necessary to give for issues and supplies, have been promptly executed by him as far as I know -- and that I have no cause to censure any part of his official conduct, which has come under my immediate observation. He seems not, however, to be very popular among the people in this quarter -- but I never deemed it necessary to enquire into the cause.

I mentioned in my last, that I had drawn on the department of war for 5000 Dolls -- supposing this sum sufficient to cancel the demands against me -- but on collecting these demands, I find a further sum necessary -- and shall therefore draw again as soon as I can dispose of a Draft.

I am, sir, with sentiments of high respect, your very humbl. servt.

Amos Stoddard, Maj

Honl. Secretary of war --

No. 621.

Invoice of Ammunitions and Ordnance Apparatus prepared at Pittsburg for

the Northwestern Army

Not transcribed.

Nov. 24, 1812

Nov. 28, 1812

No. 101.

Pittsburgh Nov 25th. 1812

Sir.

I would not trouble you again but I am afraid I shall be placed in an unpleasant situation -- I am now under acceptances on account of provisions purchased for the North Western Army for more than my present funds will meet. Let me beg of you Sir, to direct a small supply to be sent to me as soon as possible -- I mentioned that there was a balance[e] still due the Treasurer of the U.S. on the Books of the Branch Bank here, which can be had on his Draft.

My Agent at Chilicothy, (John Waddle) is furnished with Cash by the Bank at that place on his Bills drawn upon myself at ten days sight --- these Bills are forwarded to the Branch Bank here for collection & have been paid as they became due. I have Sir, perfect confidence in Mr. Waddle & must by some means or other meet his Drafts.

The copies of Letters transmitted to you were intended to shew to you the progress & course of the business -- I have Sir, exerted myself to further the measures of the Government, and to fulfill your instructions to me. Every thing has been done by me that I could possibly do -- procuring so great a portion of the supplies in Ohio, so much nearer the place of deposit, will save in the charge of transportation a very considerable sum.

Mr. Waddle saw General Harrison at Franklinton & afterwards at Chilicothy. The General gave him particular written instructions -- directed him to keep the Beeves in the Settlement until the Troops would be advanced beyond the Line of the Contract, & approved of the purchase of Hogs to be driven on also at the proper time -- Flour &c Mr. Waddle was sending out in barrels & half barrels as fast as Teams could be got to take it, and he expected that the late rains would raise the

Sciota & enable him to send up the flour & whiskey in boats as high as Franklinton, from which place to Sandusky it is but seventy miles.

From the Ohio River opposite George Town (40 miles below this) a respectable person is employed by me to forward the Loading Sent to that place -- a number of Teams have gone out from there with flour & whiskey to be deposited at Mansfield -- another responsible man furnishes ten Teams which he loads with flour at Mills near the State Line & conducts them himself out to Mansfield. I expect however the General Harrison will direct me to discontinue the hauling to Mansfield & to send the balance down to the mouth of the Sciota.

My Agent who accompanied General Crooks to Mansfield wrote me from that place on the 15th inst. he waited to complete his abstracts of provisions furnished on the march; as soon as these abstracts come to hand, and those for the issues to the Militia commanded by General Tannehill, they shall be transmitted to the accountant, together with others which I have for issues made at this place -- but Sir, it will be impossible for me, for some time, to transmit any accts. for the supplies purchased & forwarded for the north western army. a faithful application however shall be made of the money advanced -- let me then beg your attention to the first of this letter.

I am Sir, with the greatest respect. Your Obedient Servant

E Denny

The honorable
William Eustis
Secretary of War

Nov. 25, 1812

No. 222-10.

Head Quarters Franklinton

Nov. 25th. 1812

Sir,

The object of the command which has been assigned to you is the attack and distruction of the Miami villages at Mississiniway. you will commence your march to day through Springfield -- Zenia & Dayton to Eaton at which latter place Supplies of Forage and Rations have been ordered for you, should the Supplies of either not be Sufficient or should any thing be wanting towards the equipment of your Detachment, you are authorised to call upon the contractors or gr. Masters to furnish you, you have with you William Conner as a guide who has been frequently to Mississinneway and is well acquainted with the Country thro' which you are to pass. It will be safer however to employ several other guides. John Conner is on white water in the Indiana Territory and may easily be sent for & it is probable also that there are many persons to be found about Greenville or Eaton who have frequently been across the country to Mississiniway. you cannot be too well supplied with Guides. It is left to yourself to determine upon your route to Mississiniway after your arrival at Eaton and your decision will be governed by the best information you receive from Conner and others whom you may consult. The route by Greenville is to be preferred on account of its being more distant from the Delaware Towns which I wish you by all means to avoid, The Delawares have been directed to leave their Towns and retire to the Shawanoe Establishment on the Auglaize River their route to the latter place there is a probability of your falling in with them. this would be unfortunate as the faith of the Government has been pledged for their Safety. It will be necessary that care should be taken to avoid coming in contact with them or to avoid any ill consequences should it happen to

be the case Inform yourself as minutely as possible from Conner and others who have been to Mississineway of the localities of the place and the Situation of the Indians. The Three small Tribes which compose what they call the ~~####~~ Miami Nation were very lately assembled there Viz the Miamies proper whose residence it is the Eel River tribe & the Wea tribe the latter had participated in the attack upon Fort Harrison & the former in that upon Fort Wayne and there warriors have been concerned in several of the murders committed upon our Citizens. There are however some of the Chiefs who have undeviatingly exerted themselves to keep their warriors quiet & to preserve their friendly relations with us this has been the case with respect to Richardville (a half French man the 2nd Chief of the Miamies) Silver heels, the White Loon certainly and perhaps of Pecon the Principal Chief of the Eel River tribe It is not my wish that you should run any risk in saving those people but if it can be done without risk it would be extremely gratifying to me and no doubt to the President, the same remark will also apply to the sons and brothers of the little Turtle who continued to his last moment the warm friend of the U. States and who in the course of his life rendered them many important services. you own character as a Soldier and that of the troops your Command is a sure Guarantee of the safety of the women & children they will be taken however and conducted to the settlement.

Your Order of March will be such as to form with facility an order of Battle to meet an attack in front flank or rear a principal object of your attention is the service of the Guards a duty that is generally worse attended to than any other in our army the utmost vigilance however of your guard will not afford you perfect security your men must at all times be kept ready for Action by day as well as by Night, when you advance into the enemys

country all your men must be made to lie upon their arms and with their accoutrements on. The post of each Corps must also be particularly ascertained each night under every contingency that may happen the rapid movement which will be necessary to ensure the surprise of the enemy will prevent your making an entire Fortification round your Camp but in dangerous Situations it should be done and each night the guards should be placed in small square redoubts built of logs which can be constructed in a few moments.

Your marches should be so arranged as to get near the Town and ascertain the situation of the enemy at night and the greater the distance you encamp the night before you reach the town the less will be the probability of your being discovered in other words the last days march must be a forced one.

The Mississiniway Villages are scattered for three or four miles. Should your approach be undiscovered it will be necessary to divide your force so as to make a Simultaneous attack upon all the principal ones at least this will however be dangerous if the enemy should be collected or have time to collect after you are discovered. The hostilities which have been actually committed upon us by the Miamies justify our considering them as enemies. They would not however be attacked at this time but for the facility which their Towns affords to the other tribes to attack our Settlements & the convoys of the left wing of the Army. The whole of the provisions must therefore be destroyed and the towns burned. Should the Indians discover you and leave the Towns and should you not be able to come up with them but should by the capture of a woman or old man have an opportunity of sending a message to them you will please to do so -- informing them that if they will send in six of their principal Chiefs as hostages to perform such terms

as the Governmt. may impose upon the we will cease to annoy them there are probably some white men at Mississiniway but I am uncertain whether they are Citizens of the U. States or not the safe way will not to kill them if it can be prevented an old Canadian by the name of Godfroy has lived there several years and has a squaw for his wife he is and always has been a friend to the U. States there will be no difficulty in saving him as his house is apart from the rest. Having accomplished the object of your command in regard to the Mississinniway Towns it is left to your discretion to proceed against any other Town or body of Indians which you may think yourself able to strike with effect and without incurring too much risk a Banditti of scoundrels principally of the Potawatima tribe have for some time assembled at the White Pigeons Village upon the head waters of the St. Josephs of Lake Michigan and which cannot be more than fifty or sixty miles from Mississinniway an attempt to Cut them off will be made, or not, from your view of its practicability from the information you may receive and the State of your Command after the principal object shall be accomplished.

Upon Your return the Xavalry will be ordered into Winter Quarters at Xenia the Infantry will be brought on to this place.

Some pack Horses are Coming from Cincinnati with Blankets you will meet them and distribute them to your men the commanding officers o Corps will receipt for the Number they get and the receipts you will be please to forward to the Depy. Qr. M. Genl and direct that each man who receives one is charged with it, and his name returned to the pay Master Your whole command will be mustered and paid at Zenia with the best wishes for your success

I am with great Respect Yr. Hbl. Servt

[W. H. Harris n]

[To. Lt. Col. Campbell]

November 27, 1812

959

No. 535.

Chillicothe Novr. 27th. 1812

Dear Sir

I replied to your former note by the subsequent Mail I have since this morning waited on the Directors, individually, to know their mind in relation to your last Communication. They are of opinion that until such time as the Secretary of the Treasury shall consent to receive your draughts in payment of Treasury Notes, (of which a considerable number have been forwarded) they cannot be received. Were we, on any other terms, to receive your draughts and issue our own note, we might endanger the Stability of our Bank. The Secretary of the Treasury has lately forwarded Six hundred thousand dollars, in Specie, to be equally distributed between the Pittsburgh, the Cincinnati and the "Kentucky Banks; which establishes a firm barrier against any attempts that might be made upon them: Whilst we, in the mean time, are left to struggle, against every assault, in our own strength. One hundred thousand dollars, in Treasury Notes, are received here; but they afford no Security to issue upon, and besides they are designed for a special purpose: So that, unless directed by the Secretary of the Treasury, we cannot apply them to draughts on the Secretary of War. I presume, upon your representation of this matter to Mr. Gallatin, it might be so ordered as to enable our Bank to accommodate your demands. You will observe that, as these Notes are only receivable at the Treasury at the termination of twelve Months after they are issued, they cannot, of course, be very advantageous to banking institutions.

I am Dear Sir, Your Most Obedient Servant

Sam Finley

Colonel James Morrison

Franklinton

|||||

November 27, 1812

No. 708.

Mansfield

Nov. 27 - 1812

Sir

You will please to inform me what Species of public property you may have under your charge, and the number of teams & horses public^s private engaged in transporting it: it is likewise desirable, that I should ascertain the various descriptions of Military & Public Stores on the road between this and Pittsburg. how far they have progressed, and whether they are conveyed by private teams or private contract: you will communicate to me any information you may possess upon this Subject --

I have caused a quantity of corn to be stored in Wooster for the use of the Public teams, this you may obtain upon application to Mr. Jones who has charge of it: you will hire all the teams that you can possibly procure in wooster and the "neighbouring country, to transport Forage for your horses, and after taking a good Supply at that place you will pursue the road cut out for the ordinance wagons conducted by Mr Hukill to Findlay, on the Mohiokin, there you will find plenty of corn of which you will purchase and bring with you as much as possible in the Neighbourhood of Greentown -- corn can likewise be had -- you will there take in an additional Supply -- you must not depend upon this place for Forage, but if practicable bring with you a Sufficiency to last to Sandusky -- the difficulty of obtaining corn here is very great, we have to hawl it from twenty to twenty five miles (over roads that are extremely bad) and it is not easily obtained at that distance -- you will give the express that hands you this letter instructions to proceed to the Head Quarters of General Harrison with your answer, if captain Gratiott is in your rear with ordinance or Stores you will dispatch an express to him immediately with the letter to his address --

/// /// ///

inform me what funds you have in your hands in order that I may furnish you
with an additional supply if it should be necessary

With great Respect I am Sir your obdt Servant

Wm Platt Capt. &

Depty Qutr. Master Genl

Capt. Jos Wheaton

Asst. Depty Qutr. Master

N Western Army

Copy

Nov. 28, 1812

1270

No. 709.

#

Mansfield

Novr. 28. 1812 --

Sir

On your arrival at this place you will call on Mr. Duffle acting assistant Deputy Quarter Master, & inform yourself of the Military Stores on hand, you will then with Mr. Duffle (who will be under your directions) make Such arrangements as may be required by the instructions given him (by which you will likewise be governed) as may be necessary for the transportation of the public Stores to Sandusky you will make every exertion in forwarding the Stores of every description on to that place -- the ordinance particularly, should they be under your case & direction -- must not be detained at this place a moment longer than circumstances may render absolutely necessary -- on your arrival here you will please to report to me at Sandusky (or where you may understand the Head Quarters of General Harrison to be) giving such information relative to the Quarter Masters Department as you may find necessary --

With great Respect Sir I am your Obedt Servt

Willm Piatt Capt &

Depty Qutr Mastr General

Capt Jas Wheaton

Asst Dpty Qutr Master

N Western Army

[Copy]

Nov. 28, 1812

1159

No. 646.

New Port Ky

Nov 28th 1812

Sir

The encleesed bond executed by J. H. Piatt deputy Commissary Genl & securities has been enclosed to me by Mr. P. with a request that I would forward it to you, which I now do my self the honor to do.

I am going on Completing the Payments for the hire of the horses & c Captured at Detroit and indeed settleing up every thing of the North Western Army till about the first of October last. Indeed Colo. Morrision refuses to Pay any arerages of services of Teams forthe Transportation of the first detachment under Command of Brigadier Genl. Payne. In this business my assistants had to continue until about the beginning of this Month as Colo Morrison sent on no agent to that Wing of the Army to wit the left till about that time.

I shall continue to do every thing in my Power for the good of my country not withstanding I am a prisoner of War.

I am still acting as Pay Master not only to this state but to Ohio as I have heared nothing of the returns of Tassac Hunt agt. of Cincinnati who was appointed some time since --

At the time Genl. Hull sent on From Detroit for the detachment of Ky & Ohio Troops one of my assistants was the bearer of the dispatch by a particular request in writing signed by Colos. McArthur Findlay & Cass. It was urged that Mr Cameos[?] could as my assistants in the Q N dept. transport the detachment & furnish the necessary supplies of Camp Equipage. I did my self the honor to write to Governor Scott to this effect in Case he had made

no arrangements to have it done thro a different Channel. I had not been informed of the ~~#####~~ appt of Mr. Bryson as Asst. deputy Q.M. My Assistants Mr Carneal & Mr. Eubank went on to make the necessary arrangements under Govr. Scotts directions

I am informed this ~~####~~ gave some umbrage to Mr. Bryson. my assts. requested him if he wished it to go up & engage the Transportation &c. but he refused, but it is thought he made some complaint to you on this subject, that my aats. were interfering with the duties of his office. I had my orders from Genl Hull, & Gov Scott gave me assts orders to the extent they concerned us. These observations are only intended to explane the matter in case any representation was made to you, I do assure you it was a great inconveninece for me to spare Mr Carneal from my office at Sandwich at the time, for Mr Beale was a prisoner and my self very ill and I had only two steady assistants to both the Q M & P. A departments, and I assure you there was business for more than double the number, but I wished to be as economical as possible.

Immediately on coming to Gov Meigs he ~~left~~ Quarters on my return from Detroit I found he had apointed an asst. for me in the Q M dept. & he urged me to furnish the necessary supplies of Tents Camp Equipage ~~####~~ Ammunition Wa gons & a Traveling Forge &c. this I had done in the Shortest time possable and also sent on my two Nephews to be with that Wing of the Army as Pay Master & Q Masters for which I reqd the Gov.s thanks.

These two young men Colo. Morrison has found so attentive & clean[?] that he has taken them into his department & also another one, so that I have three Nephews with the Troops now out Several other near connection some officers & one privates & our Nephew was taken prisoner with me. I nearly mention this to shew that I set the example & urged my friends to follow

it in our glorious struggle for our rights. I not only have supported the present & late Administrations with my words but with my actions & shall continue to do as long as the war continues

With great respect & esteem I have the honor to be sir Your Obed Servt.

James Taylor

Hon. Wm. Eustis

Secry of War

November 29, 1812

956

No. 533.

Lexington 29th Nov 1812

Sir,

Having been called upon by Colo. McMillan commanding the Recruiting
Rendezvous at this place, to furnish them with the necessary quantities
of Stationary, wood &c and not being certain that I am duly authorized to
do so -- require that I should have your instructions on the subject,
which you will please forward immediately --

I have the honor to be Sir with due respect Yr. obt. Servt

James Morrison

D ~~Q~~ ~~Q~~ ~~Q~~ ~~Q~~ ~~Q~~ ~~Q~~ ~~Q~~ ~~Q~~ ~~Q~~ ~~Q~~ M Gl. N W Army

by Robt. Scott

The Honble

William Eustis

Secy of War

11/11/12

November 29, 1812

1106

No. 622.

Pittsburgh 29th. Novr. 1812.

Sir,

As I am well aware of the difficulty and expense of transporting Army supplies over land to the neighborhood of Detroit, I have turned my attention to the means of lessening both. I have consulted several intelligent men, who live on the frontiers of Ohio, (some of whom served under Generals Harmar and Wayne) and they all concur in the plan I am about to suggest for your consideration.

The plan is -- to forward all supplies by way of the two Miamies, and their waters. It is about 140 miles, by way of the Miami of the Ohio, to what is called Loramie's station -- thence over the portage to the St. Mary's is 10 miles -- thence down the St. Mary's, by way of Fort Wayne, to the Rapids in the Miami of the Lakes, is about 180 miles. These Rivers afford a good boat navigation from about March to June; and during most of this period, the greater part of the Country on each side of the St. Mary's and the Miami of the Lakes, particularly the latter, is inundated for 10 or 15, and in some instances 30 miles; so that boats navigating these waters are not exposed to the attacks of the Indians: small escorts would ensure their safety.

Five men are sufficient on these waters to manage a boat, carrying from 60 to 80 Barrels of flour. Genl. Wayne at first, as I am informed, attempted to transport his supplies over land -- but found it impracticable. He therefore resorted to the mode I have pointed out, and obtained his supplies with facility, and with very little expense to the Government.

To carry this plan into effect, it would be necessary to hire or purchase a suitable number of keel boats, and cause them to assemble at Cincinnati, or Newport -- to build one or two strong block houses on the

///N/X///

portage, where there ought also to be a number of good teams to transport^{the} the supplies to the St. Mary's. Boats likewise may be easily transported over the portage, or they may built on the Miami of the Lakes, or its waters. Perhaps the first mode is the best.

I hope these remarks are of sufficient importance to pardon intrusion -- and am, Sir, with sentiments of high respect, your very huml. Servt.

Amos Stoddard, Maj

1st. Regt. U. S. Artillery.

Honl. Secretary of war

Dec. 1, 1812

1265

No. 706.

State of Ohio Lisbon Dec. 1 -- 1812

Dr. Sir

We have just arrived here after a march of Eight miles. I will not attempt to describe the roads -- we start by early Morn and make such a distance as our Horses will support. forage is scarce & dear. I tremble at the expence & use every economy in my power -- twenty Eight gun carriage two travelling Forges and thirty Seven wagons with 304 horses, Some of which were such as never were offered for public Service. Mr. Johnson forced upon me at the time of my departure, and altho I protested against Eleven -- yet I was compelled to take them or none the consequence has been Some were left behind the first days march Some dead, and Several I have changed for other paying a considerable Sum in exchange. I ~~#####~~ have been so occupied since I passed through the Great Beaver I could not drop you a line since -- I will take the easliest oppertunity to write you fully and endeavor to persuade you to make an almost intire change in the Mode of transportation, and to Substitute pack horses instead of wagons -- I pray you Sir to cast it over in your mind untill I have time to advise you of the Maner it ought to be done, and I persuade myself I shall convince you that thousands may be saved to the public and distance performed in half the time a wagon would take, and five hourses, the Common team ~~###~~ of a wagon, will carry on their backs in even [illeg.] roads than we have, ~~#####~~ more than they can now draw in a wagon -- Captain Gratiot is very zealous in our Marches and Unites with me in every exertion to get the munitions on to camp and altho our Movements are not rapid yet we trust we shall not slip[?] by the way -- accept Sir the assurance of all my powers, to get forward & believe me I am faithfully your devoted Servt.

Joseph Wheaton

The Honble/ William Eustis Esqr/ Secretary at war

December 2, 1812

1023

No. 579.

Zanesville Ohio 2nd. December 1812

Honored Sir,

On the arrival of Colo. Cass at this place I enquired of him if he had, while in Washington, made known to you my situation as an officer in the late army under Brigd Gen Hull -- being informed in negative; owing as he observed; has the multiplicity of business he was engaged in, and his extreem indisposition, had entirely escaped his recollection. On that account am induced to address you, in hopes that I shall not suffer, from a disposition to be as serviceable in the army as possible -- On the 12th April last I recd a Commission as Capt of a Company of Volunteers under the act of Congress of the 6th. February -- and continued that Command untill the 25th July, when I was informed by General Order, that I had been appointed; Issuing & purchasing Commissary to the troops in Upper Canada, & Copy of that appointment is inclosed -- on application -- the Genl. give me two or three days to make up my opinion on the subject -- and one# the 27th. went to him & told him, I could not accept, in as much as great danger would attend the transportations of provision, and that my circumstances, would not justify any risks on that subject he expressed some regret at my refusal and we parted -- on the 28th he came to me and urged me to reconsider the promise I had made the evening before, said I should be no looser by accepting of the appointment, that he had told Colo. Cass, my pay and emoluments should be equal to that of a Lieut. Colonels in the army, and that the army could not do without such an officer. and insisted on my Compliance -- from a wish to be as useful as possible I suffered myself to be prevailed

upon, and reluctantly resigned the Command of Eighty as fine fellows as there were in that unfortunate army. The only request I have to make is that when the Government -- in making arrangements for paying and discharging the Volunteers of Ohio -- that I shall be considered; and allowed, at least as much as if I had not resigned.

Your most bedt Sert.

W Reynolds

Detroit 25th July 1812

After General Orders

Capt William Reynolds of Colo. Cass's Regiment is appointed Issuing commissary to that part of the army now in Upper Canada, he will receive the Rations from Augustus Porter Esqr. the Contractor at Detroit -- he will sign duplicate receipts for all the rations he receives, and will keep accurate accounts of all his issues, and presume all the orders on which he makes the issues -- this appointment to continue untill further orders, or untill the pleasure of the President shall be known Capt Reynolds's Compensation will be determined by the Government

Signd

Wm. Hull Brigr Genl: Comd.

Copy




Dec. 4, 1812

No. 151.

Head Quarters

Camp Russell

Madison County

Ill. Ty.

Dec. 4. 1812

Sir

We are considerably harrassed by the indians in this quarter -- two nights ago a party attacked a fort on Shoal creek into which I had but the day before thrown a reinforcement they attempted to tear down the picketss wounded two of our men stole eight horses and retreated Several other parties have made their appearance within a few miles of this place and are now hotly pursued by detachments of mounted riflemen. Large numbers are embodied within a days ride of this place. The Illinois is now and always has been as dangerous ~~point~~ a point as the Wabash and yet while there are more men in that quarter than can be advantagiously employed not a single man from Kentucky has arrived to our assistance.

I have had to dépend wholly on the local militia and the volunteer companies which I never had influence enough to raise, the latter are mounted and are kept constantly ranging -- But their spirit is a good deal broken, having had to lead the life of savages, by being almost constantly in the woods and neither they nor Capt Whiteside company of rangers having as yet received a cent of pay.

I have the honor to be Very respectfully Sir Yr Mo Obedt St

Ninian Edwards

The Honble

Wm Eustis

War Dept

Dec. 7, 1812

No. 57.

Wackatomoka near Zanesville Dec 7th 1812

Sir,

I trust you will pardon my presumption in troubling you with the enclosed plan for raising a body of Volunteers within this state. Should it meet your approbation and succeed in the execution, as I confidently trust it will, a Corps will be organized adequate to every service, which can reasonably be expected from them.

Very respectfully sir, I have the honour to be yo. mo. obt. servt.

Lew Cass

[Ed. The plan is outlined as follows:]

Events, which have transpired during the course of this war, satisfactorily prove the little dependence which is to be placed upon the Militia, commissioned by the authority and organized under the laws of the different states, for a farther and vigorous prosecution of it. Their Constitution appears to be at variance with military subordination. When their service is required to pass the frontiers of the Country, the factions are ever ready by appealing to their constitutional rights to gratify the fears of the times and the resentments of the discontented. They are necessarily more expensive than any other species of force. From the want of care incident upon new service; the injury and destruction of publick property is great. The time between their being called out and their arrival at the general rendezvous is lost to the publick, for payment to the new troops is begun before it is discontinued to the old.

11/17/12

The term of service of the Militia now in the service of the United States from this State will expire about the middle of February next. They must then be relieved by another draft or by the employment of some other description of ~~force~~. Drafting should only be resorted to, when every other ~~method~~^{mode} of raising troops has proved abortive. It is disagreeable to the Government and disgusting to the People. It serves to raise a spirit of discontent, and puts a total stop to all recruiting. The sums which are offer[ed] to procure substitutes ~~for~~ exceed all inducement, which is or can be held out for recruiting. But the considerations connected with this subject are so obvious as not to require recapitulation.

The only way entirely to avoid these difficulties is by proper encouragement to procure Volunteers from among the hardy and substantial yeomanry of our Country. To effect this object, I submit the following plan, which I am convinced will organize a force respectable for its character and numbers, within the State of Ohio.

1. Let a Brigadier General of Volunteers be appointed by the President.
2. Let four Colonels be appointed, one in each of the four Divisions, into which this state is divided.
3. Let two Majors be appointed in each of these Divisions.
4. Let all these appointments be made immediately and orders given to the B. General to proceed to raise the men.
5. I perceive the pay of the soldiers will probably be raised to eight dollars per month, and I presume the different species of troops will receive the same monthly compensation. In addition to which the sums allowed to the Volunteers for clothing ought to be at least fifty dollars, and this will scarcely be adequate to purchase

at retail their yearly clothing. One half of this sum ought to be paid at the time they sign their engagements, and the other half on their arrival at the regimental Rendezvous. It may be assumed as an indisputable principle, that a smaller sum paid immediately operates as a much greater inducement upon men to engage in any service than larger future rewards. Another leading principle ought not to be lost sight of. All offers held out either to the patriotism or enterprize of men should be certain and fixed. If left indefinite they will be increased by the desire of the officer to procure recruits and by the hopes and credulity of the men engaged. When disappointment succeeds this expectation, they become uneasy and discontented, attributing the failure to the ill faith of the Government, and too easily disposed to believe that their engagement has ceased with the disappointment of their expectations.

6. Let the Company officers be elected by the privates and commissioned by the President.
7. Let a Regiment of 600 men divided into ten Companies of 60 men each, be raised in each of the Divisions before mentioned. A new corps thus organized requires a greater number of Officers to ensure discipline and subordination than a corps already raised and accustomed to the routine of duty.

To ensure success a vigorous prosecution of the plan is necessary. It will be advisable, that the different Regiments of Militia in the State should be successively mustered, for the purpose of making an effectual appeal to the spirit and enterprize of the men composing them. Men tender their services much more readily

together than^N separately. Numbers excite emulation and the price of one compels him to imitate the patriotism of another. But this is only to be effected by an arrangement with the Governor. It would be very desirable, that the appointment of the General and Field officers should be made immediately, in order that the business should be commenced before the men under Gen. Tupper and those under Gen. Perkins are[#] discharged. Proper Officers sent to their camps would procure the voluntary engagement of a considerable proportion of the force now in service.

Troops of this description enter the service with much more alacrity and endeavour to discharge their duty with much more zeal, than men reluctantly dragged from their homes by a draft. The discipline and subordination of those under Gen. Hull would bear no mean comparison with the regular troops. They were^{##} certainly composed of much better materials than any regular Corps can be. There is with volunteer corps no question about passing the boundaries of the Union. Wherever the standard of their Country is raised, if ordered they are ready to follow.

The love of a military life is easily acquired, and the customs of Camp are not soon forgotten. The volunteer troops surrendered at Detroit are all anxious to return. They await only a signal from the Government to gratify their individual feelings and to avenge the cause of their Country. This example shews how easy it is to reengage men in a service, where the pay is prompt and the treatment good. Nearly all the men who volunteer under this plan might doubtless be induced at the expiration of their term again to tender their services, should circumstances then render their services

necessary. As no bounty is given, this would occasion no additional expense.

I perceive on reexamination, that it may possibly be supposed, that this place is founded upon the idea of engaging those Volunteers, who were surrendered at Detroit. But it proceeds upon the expectation of procuring new men, which I am convinced by proper exertions judiciously directed may easily be effected.

Dec. 8, 1812

No. 102.

Pittsburgh Decr. 8th. 1812

Sir

The contract & Bond for 1813 which you ~~will~~ were pleased to send me & have executed, & return the same inclosed.

I received of the Treasurer of the United States his Letter of the 25th ult. covering a Draft on Jonan. Smith Cashier of the Bank of Penna for Forty Thousand Dollars, but I can do nothing with it here at present.

The officers of the Branch are afraid to give me credit for the Draft (their specie is so reduced) as a part would necessarily have to go to meet the Drafts of my agent at Chilicothy; and the cashr. of the Bank at Chilicothy, in whose favor my agents Drafts are, when placed to his credit, can demand the specie. There is in the Branch to the credit of the Treasurer of the U.S. the sum of 62,000 some odd Dollars, & not an equal amount in specie to pay with -- this is what has alarmed the officers, and they are afraid, under these circumstances, to part with a dollar, least the Treasurer should draw upon them before they receive a recruit. I will hold the Draft sent me for further advice -- in the mean time I have written to Chilicothy to know if paper on the Bank of Penna. would be received, but I really dont know how I am to meet the Bills accepted & payable here in a few days -- One half the sum in a Dft upon the cashier at this place would have removed every difficulty -- as to purchases &c made by myself near this I should be at no loss, any Bank paper answers my purpose here. Believe me Sir, I would be sorry to give you any trouble if I could possibly avoid it.

I am with the gretest respect Your Obedt Servant

E Denny

The honorable/ William Eustis/ Secretary of War

W H H H

Dec. 8, 1812

1266

No. 707.

Ohio -- Canton Decr. 8. 1812

Sir

Believing it will be gratefull to you, to learn the progress we make with our caravan, so important to the N Western Army -- leaving Pittsburg on the 22d Ultio as we did, a Season of all others for traveelling the very worst you will not say we have been playing truant on the road, especially when I inform you that Lt. Johnson A.D.Q.M. -- Sent of a Mr. Jones four weeks before us with only fifteen teams -- and we are now with 67 -- and are within Eleven days March of him, and I trust we shall nearly arrive as soon as he will be the progress which ##### he has made -- Captain Gratoit & myself took to our tent on the first days March, and continue it tho Snow, rain, or hail, we rise at 2 OClo A.M. Breakfasted feed our horses at 4 -- and commence our March at 6 there not being daylight Sufyicient before, but what with repairs of roads and repairs of carriages together with Shewing our horses we cannot average more than Six Miles pr. day But Sir did you See the number of wagons Stall'd pr. day, and the deep places to the axle, and the road generally to the nave of the wheel you would give us full credit for industry and exertion, and altho we move slow, we will be Sure, and not Stick by the way -- we are extreemly anxious to reach Mansfield -- and General Harrison -- from whom we have had an express this day and one came to us near Lisbon from Captain Piatt D Q Mastr. General -- And to Shew you Sir that I am as ready to Commend those who do their duty as to cas t a shade where there is apparant willful negligence I take the liberty to enclose a copy of Captn. Piatts instructions to me -- beliving they are the best comment I can make on his conduct --

I must take the liberty Sir to urge you to recommend to congress an increase of the Infantry of the war Establishment for the I myself who have

so little faith in Militia did hope and believe that those companies both of horse & foot who offered their service to the President for one year, would do something like Soldiers -- I find myself wholly mistaken the greatest part of them have proved the veryest rascals of any -- and take them all together they are a moth[?] and a deception -- the measure taking by congress to augment the regular soldiers pay will have a good effect I have no doubt but when your regiments are full they will be insufficient for the purposes to be required -- on this Subject I could say much, but need not to you and therefore forbear to make any further comment -- only to add that nearly one half of the Militia of Pennsylvania have deserted and gone home, after committing the grossest depredations on their way and disgusting the people --

I am Sir faithfully your obedt. Servant

Joseph Wheaton

A D Q M

N.B. the Stores Sent of by Lt. Johnson for mansfield under care of a Boy of the name of Jones are Scattered in many places. Some at Houses, and I learn some loads in the woods they give us [illeg.] trouble to preserve and forward -- J.W.

the Honble.

William Eustis Secretary at war

/// // // //

Dec. 9, 1812

No. 222-2.

(Copy)

Massac December 9th. 1812

Dear Colo.

I arrived here on the 1st of this instant. The troops were in health at that time; but being obliged to camp for several days on the bank of the river for want of quarters they have caught most violent colds and this mornings Report musters 10 sick.

I have drove out citizens who were living out side of the bounds of the Garrison.

Captn. Grays company, my own are sheltering in Huts about one half mile below the fort.

I suppose that if the Ky. Volunteers can put thier thieving irons on our clothing we never shall get any; for report says here that Genl. Harrison orders them to take wherever they may find

(Signed)

Frs. W Armstrong

[Yo Eustis]

/// /// /// ///

Dec. 9, 1812

No. 710.

Captain Wheaton

Sir

I take the liberty of Reporting to you the conduct of a Certain Ephram Jones who past through this place (Canton) from Pittsburgh to the North Western army in the capacity of a Forage Master -- When the Waggon first came to town #he applyed to me for Forage I gave them some oats and offerd more in the shear at 50 cents per Dozen -- Jones Refused to take them, -- and afterwards Bought of Jacob Schüsslen at 62 1/2 cents Per Dozen -- I then called on Jones for a settlement -- he asked me the price of the oats I Told him 46 cent he then Drew two Receipt Both of the same date and Requested me to sign them -- I told Jones I would if he would Mak one of the Duplicate which he Refused to do -- Jacob Miller came and paid me my acct. for which I gave a Recpt Jacob Shluser furnished Forage -- a Gen Kirkpatrick Done Blacksmith work the Both Sibnd Double Receipts without being mark as Duplicat --

The above facts I Pledge myself to Establish

With Due Respect I subscribe myself your Humble servent

James Deeman J Peace of Stark County Ohio

Canton Decemb. 9th 1812

Handwritten signature/initials

Dec. 9, 1812

1274

No. 222-1.

(Copy)

Massac 9th December 1812

Dr. Colo.

"I arrived at this post the 3d of this instant, with a vain hope that my exposures were to be at an end.

I found no quarters wither in or outside of the Garrison until I constrained a citizen to more out of a wretched house which affords but a partial Shelter for my company that are now almost naked and will certainly be so in a week or two if not relieved.

Their health is better than I expected it would have been after such a hard march as they had to this place they have a great many bad colds, there are 6 on the sick report this morning none of them are dangerously ill as yet.

I have not yet heard from Joy that I left on the road. I greatly fear he is dead, if I do not hear ~~###~~ soon from him I shall send after him

Lieut. Walton has been very sick but is much mended.

This is a wretched little place ^{dest} ~~first~~ falling into ruin and will require much industry to keep it in a state fit for defence.

Col. Floyd passed this place on Sunday last for Baton Rouge -- it was not in his power to inform us whether the clothing for the 24th was in Kentucky or not.

It is said that Genl. Harrison approp[r]iates all the clothing and munitions of war that touches in Kentucky to the use of his invincible Kentuckians if so we shall run some risk of loosing ours -- God forbid for if he does we freeze to a certainty.

Kentucky is now engaged in settling the Question beterrn Hopkins and his Volunteers. I cannot say certainly how they will determine it. I

/// // // //

think though against Hopkins as that is the only way they can support their
military character

(Signed) A Gray

[To Eustis]

December 2 1812

1109

No. 624.

Office of the M E Company

Cincinnati 9th Decr 1812x--

The Honble

"m. Eustis

Secy of War

Washington

Sir,

Since the rect. of yours of the 10th Ult. I have paid the following drafts on you viz

James Morrison's for 37,000.00

Joyn H Piatt's 60,000.00

J. W. Bryson's 4,000.00

Capt. S H Hopkins' 1,500.00

Advanced Lt. David Gwynne

P M 19. Regt US. Infy pr

rects by Order of Genl. Harrison

13,956.30

do -- do James Bradshaw

O M Colo. Sumalts Regt.

L. D. pr. rects by order &c 10,361.61

[illeg.; Dolls. 126,817.91

Not having received any instructions, I am at a loss to know how I am to dispose of these dfts & rects. Please inform me if they are to be forwarded to you and the Treasures dft obtained for the amount.

I have the honor to be, respectfully, yrs

O.M. Spencer Cashr.

//////

*December 11, 1812*No. 357.

Harrison to Eustis, Dec. 11, 1812, sec: vol. I, p. 56.

Dec. 13, 1812

No. 360.

[Ed. Transmitted in ltr of Harrison to Eustis, Dec. 13, 1812.]

A list of Staff appointments made by Genl. Wm Harrison — Comag. N.W. Army.

1812 Octo. 27 John S. Wills Division J. Advocate

1812 Nov. 18 Robert D. Richardson Dpy Commy. Ord.

" Charles Madiss Conductr. of Artily

24th John C. Bartlett Field Comssy. Genl.

27 James T. Eubank } Depy. Qr. Masters
A. D. Orr }

" Hubbard Taylor

Thomas H. Pindall

Jacob Fowler

James McCluspy

John C Paine

Benjamin Gardner

James R. Curry

Daniel Mayo

ass. Dy. Qr. Mst.

Decr. 3d. 1st Lt. L. Hukill U.S. army Ass. Dy. Adj. Genl

" 6 Ensign Charles S. Todd J. Advocate to the left wing N.W.
army with the pay & Emoluments of
Dep[?] J. Advocate

~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~

Dec. 12, 1812

687

No. 362.

Harrison to Eustis, Dec. 12, 1812, see: vol. I, p. 57.

Dec. 13, 1812

No. 352.

Harrison to Eustis, Dec. 13th 1812, see: vol. I, p. 60.

December 13, 1812

957

No. 534.

Franklinton 13. December 1812.

Sir.

Since my arrival here I have scarcely had time either to eat or to sleep. The sums of money expended during the motn alarms me, and urges me press upon your attention the necessity of making immediate provision for the support of the North Western army -- as without a proper disposition of pecuniary receources all the efforts of the Commander in Chief will prove fruitless. The 400,000 dollars which were deposited in the Kentucky and Miami Banks are nearly exhausted, and unless those Institutions will consent to make very large advances the movements of the army must be paralyzed in another month. I sent a draft for \$1000 to Capt. Richard Graham, who has been for some weeks past ~~at~~ at Chillicothe, (aiding in forwarding the public stores from the mouth of Scioto to Franklinton) which he was under the necessity of selling to the Bank at that place at a discount of 2 pct. Permit me Sir, to recommend some speedy arrangement being made wit the President and Directors of that institution, which w ll enable them to purchase my drafts. They think themselves slighted -- enclosed is a letter on the subject -- From our proximity to them their notes will answer as well as specie.

There are many important points upon which I wish to address you, but am too deeply engaged at present -- I shall therefore only repeat that without funds, abundant funds, we shall not pass the Rapids this winter. I have long since said that \$1,000,000 would be necessary this winter -- my experience proves the correctness of what I had anticipated. Economy is strictly adhered to, but when just demands are presented to me it is my duty to discharge them. Th: public credit ought to be supported, and

the means deemed necessary by the Commander in Chief and myself for the support of and transportation incident to the army should be placed within my power.

I have the honor to be very respectfully Sir, Your most obedient servant

James Morrison

The Honble.

William Rustis,
Secretary of War,
Washington.

Dec. 14, 1812

686

No. 361.

Harrison to Eustis, Dec. 14, 1812, see: vol. I, p. 61.

December 19, 1812

No. 536.

Office of The M. E. Company

Cincinnati 19th Decr. 1812.

Sir,

On the 9th. Instant I had the honor to informing you, that I had paid the Drafts of sundry Public officers & Agents, amounting to 126,817.91

Since that time I have paid

| | |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| James Morrison's dfts for | 4,00.00 |
| John H. Piatt's | 30,000.00 |
| Thomas Buford's | 15,000.00 |
| & W. Piatt D.Q.M.G. | <u>20,000.00</u> |
| Amounting to | \$195,817.91 |

I am, very respectfully your Obt servt

O. M. Spencer Cashr.

The Honble.

William Eustis

Secretary of War,

Washington City.

1777

*December 29, 1812*No. 436

Fort Fayette

Decr. 20th. 1812

Sir --

I have now the honor to lay before you a Genl. abstract to include the issues of the 16th. Inst. for the N. Western army -- In the addition of which, there has been an error correct in the article of sharp[?] ~~###~~ & some[?] trifling[?] over in other articles as will appear by comparing the abstracts -- My health, I have the pleasure to inform you, is now such as to permit my particular attention to the correctness of all my official transactions.

I have the honor to be Yr. Mo. Ob. Servant

H. Johnson

Lt & A D Qr M

The Honorable

William Eustis Esquire

Secretary of War

Washington City.

11/11/11

Dec. 24, 1812

No. 222-16.

Franklinton Decr. 24th 1812

Dear Sir

The enclosed will inform you of the result of Col. Campbells Expedition against the Indians on the Wabash. The Express passed through this place yesterday morning on his way to Head Quarters at Upper Sandusky -- The information of Tecumsey being within 15 or 20 miles was given by one of the Indian women a prisoner

I hope this statement may be unfounded; because I should tremble for the result, should that additional force make an attack on our Troops incumbered with the wounded, and from an accident having happened to one of the pack horses corssing a water course, rather scarce of amunition

I am Dear Sir very respectfully your ob. Set

James Morrison

N.B. Send us money, or we must soon halt, all our arrangements will be arrested, and blame will attach somewhere J M
The Honl.

W. Eustis

Secy of War

Dec. 24, 1812

No. 222-19.

Franklinton Decr. 24th 1812

My dear Sir

Our friend Col. Campbell as you will see, has covered himself with Glory, (to use a french phrase) — I look for him in a day or two on his way to upper Sandusky, Head Quarters. If the report of Tecumsey being within 12 or 20 miles with 5 or 600 warriors is true, I tremble for the result of another action -- Unfortunately in my opinion all the Cavalry were armed with short Rifles instead of Muskets -- the latter with Buckshot Catridges is by far the most efficient, especially at night --

I have but a moment to write and to Congratulate you on this success of Col Campbells -- He is an officer of great promise -- indeed he stands pre-eminently beyond all officers I have seen here --

When a little at leisure I will attempt giving you some account of the many obstacles which have intervened to retard the army, from progressing -- for the present will barely remark that the total failure of Major White, the Contractor, and those who have Leased under him -- have been the principal causes You are Military man enough to know, that no prudent General ever advances far into an Enemies Country without having previously provided for the support of his Troops -- The late season of the year, the heavy and constant rains that have fallen the early part of the preceding month, and since, have rendered the roads at all times bad allmost impassible. To this may be added the scarcity of forage -- we are hawling in waggons from the Picaway plains, and from Paint Creek beyond Chilacothé & carrying on pack horses Corn and oats, which cost the U States when delivered here more than one dollar per bushel -- And even at this late period not one half the crops are housed -- The Country is new & poor -- and the Inhabitants disposed to take all advantages -- A great proportion of Our

X/11/17/1/

transport ox teams -- We have experienced many obstacles even in getting them here, having been compelled to send to Zanesville, Marietta &c. to purchase them; those ordered from Kentucky are only now arriving, and from having been drove over bad roads, and by hands or teamsters not accustomed to oxen, they arrive broke down and incapable of immediate service. I have sent over the Country in different directions to procure Black Smiths accustomed to shoe oxen -- have at length got frame prepared and our people are now closely engaged in shoeing them -- Many of their feet so much injured that they might be tracked by the blood that trickles from them -- Here there is nothing to be had, neither Iron steel, nor even charcoal -- We have a good stock now preparing, but anxious to get our oxen shod, sent into the Country and tho' the Blacksmith to whom we sent had plenty the scoundrel would not spare a bushel. There is less virtue, less patriotism here (amongst the Dutch and Yankees) than in any part of the U States --

We have found it almost impossible to procure Teamsters at any price -- Notwithstanding all our exertions we have now forty yoke of oxen for which we have not drivers -- To those Teamsters who came from Kentucky 4/6 & 6/ per day have been paid, even to get the teams this far --and even at that extravagant price they claim their discharges the moment they arrive -- I am sending to Washington Country Marietta with a view of engaging drivers -- You will discover pretty readily from this statement that we move on but slowly -- Notwithstanding all the efforts of the Commander in Chief -- are of the feeble aid he has derived from my personal exertions since with him --

I am not disposed to despair, or look at the unpromising side of any picture -- I know we shall be able before spring to retake Detroit -- perhaps Malden -- but I have endeavored to impress on the Commander in Chief the expediency and indeed necessity of first subduing the savages.

Were their Towns destroyed they would be compelled either to sue for peace immediately, or throw themselves on the British at Malden for support. The great number of hungry savages would soon exhaust the scanty supplies of the British at that post, and so soon as they found themselves straitened for provisions, their wives & children in want -- our Troops in possession of their hunting Country -- they would immediately charge the British with being the sole cause of all their misfortunes, would become implacable enemies, and would necessarily turn to Genl. Harrison with overtures of peace --

The expense of this army (or rather three or four armies) will exceed all your calculations and treble that of the Secretary of War -- I believe I would speak more correctly were I to say thousands where he has only thought of hundreds -- The four hundred thousand dollars sent out to Kentucky and Cincinnati is but a drop in the Bucket -- a very considerable portion of that money had been received by me and other agents of the Government (from both the before mentioned Banks) before its arrival -- I mean that those Banks had made advances in anticipation of the public deposit -- I have before leaving Ken'y stated in very positive terms, to the Secretary of War, that it would in my opinion require \$1,000,000 to support this army during the winter -- I am now satisfied that my calculations are under the mark; and unless immediate arrangements are made for giving me a credit in either the Chillicothe, or Cincinnati Bank, our efforts will be arrested in less than one month -- Do my Good Sir, take the trouble of waiting on the Secretary of War immediately, and urge the necessity of sending on money with all possible dispatch -- It is altogether useless to be sending out Treasury Bills, they would not answer any better purpose than blank paper -- A few days since I transmitted to the Secretary of War a letter

from Genl. Findloy president of the Chillicothe Bank on the Subject of Treasury Bills -- a reference to that letter will shew the standing in this state.

I mentioned above three of four armies -- This is the fact -- from the left wing to the Centre is about 40 miles, from thence to this line 44 miles, and to the right of this, are the Virginia and Penna Troops -- On each of these lines are the same number of Staff officers that would be requisite for the whole if concentrated --

Government is sending out ample supplies, but unfortunately they commenced their operation at too late a period -- There stores are only now arriving at the mouth of Scioto, and the clothing for the Regular Troops not more than now at Pitth.

The expense of hauling those stores from the mouth of the River amounts to a very Considerable sum -- and in the present situation of the Roads, Teams often make but 5 miles per day -- in fact were I to enumerate or attempt it, the difficulties we have to encounter you would be for halting us unt l next spring -- It will be recollected that on my slender shoulders rests the Transportation of this line, and all northwestwardly -- This I could have accomplished with tolerable ease, but the transportation of provisions and with that the increase quantity of forage requires ~~many~~ many hundred waggons -- and not to rely on them altogether pack horses have been resorted to -- In the course of three weeks I hope to have not less than from 2 to three thousand pack Horses completely equipt each with two strong bags -- These will be principally employed in the transportation of Forage -- It may appear to you my friend that half this number would answer all our purposes -- make a calculation -- say that a simple horse will carry 3 bushels of Corn 96 quarts -- send him even to Upper Sandusky from this place, say 60 miles -- give him 8 quarts per day the allowance by

law -- allow 7 days to perform the trip which is rather less than can be calculated on for a Brigade of pack Horses say 80 or 90, it will be found that only 40 quarts are left, -- If you increase the distance to 100 miles, his load will be found incompetent to his support. To attempt the transportation by waggons the result will be found still more unfavorable. I do not wish you to understand that I am drawing imaginary difficulties, we have real ones before our eyes and we will surmount them all if you only send us money.

You will see my friend that this letter has been penned in haste -- I am surrounded with waggons, and others calling momentarily on business, This apology for the many inaccuracies you will discover seemed necessary -- An observation you made to me in my own House has often occurred to me since here is "That I was old, and my physical powers must shortly wear out" -- you might have added Mental also -- But as I have had the misfortune to only possess the latter in a limited degree, I am anxious to preserve both as long as possible -- I rise at 6 am firing, take the Cold bath every morning, and have scarcely time to eat throughout the day -- since here about six weeks have not went to bed one night before 10 o'clock, and often not until after 12 -- I cannot say how long I shall hold out, but hope until I see our Troops in possession of Malden --

Tell my friend Geo. M. Bebb to give me the news -- He has leisure, I know you have not.

Present me affectionately to Mrs. Clay -- And believe me to be Dear Sir your friends & Huml. Set.

James Morrison

P.S. I set out by promising you only a short letter, but have spun it out in my incoherent way, to a long one -- And even now find that many important

points have been omitted --

If the war is likely to continue, I wish to be placed if practicable as Q.M.G. to this army -- You will see from this, that old as I am, I am not divested of ambition --

The Honl. Henry Clay

Dec. 25, 1812

No. 222-3.

Kaskaskia

Illinois Territory

Decr. 25. 1812

Sir

I had the honor to recieve your letter of the 24 Octr last on the 20 Inst.

In saying that it was my fault that there was not a sufficient force in this quarter Genl Harrison has said what cannot be supported -- According to the authority given me by you I called upon the Govr of Kentucky for a regt. of infantry, but before it could reach this place it was ordered to Vincennes -- Colo Russel came on here with one company of rangers in the month of Augt but before the expiration of that month they also were ordered back to Indiana## -- leaving me no alternative but to rely on the citizens of this territory for its defence -- With such limited means I defended it against a formidable invasion and finally carried on an expedition against the indians with as much success as has ever been accomplished under similar circumstances in the western country -- and even after being reduced to the necessity of encountering the most uncommon difficulties & of acting upon my own responsibility for the salvation of the country I discover that some pitiful attempts are making to deprive me of the credit I am intitled to by giving it to Colo Russel who happened to join me (about three days before I commenced my march) with fifty rangers -- This injustice is known felt and attested by the whole of my little army & there is not a man of common sense in this country who does not believe that my measures have saved it nor one of common honesty who will not acknowledge it --

The letter alluded to by Genl. Harrison never reached me till the 7th of Octr when I was busily engaged in preparing for my expedition and when the

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season was too far advanced to derive any advantage~~###~~ from troops for whom I should have had to send all the way to Knoxville --

Several british traders with large quantities of goods are now on the Mississippi & St Peters rivers -- the consequences of this fact you will readily percieve -- [illeg.] the President of our legislative council has received information from one of his correspondents that Dickson is now at St Josephs preparing to head a large body of indians and british subje s in an attack upon this country as soon as the weather will permit.

I have lately received a letter from his Excellency Gov Blount informing me that two regts. are ready to march here upon my requisition -- but that they are not yet furnished with arms. If called for he requires that I shall provide for them after they pass the limits of Tennessee and have engaged to supply it with provisions &c. on its march from any point on the Ohio -- In ^{regard} to these troops I have acted more from necessity, than the dictates of my own judgment. Some are certainly necessary but these are not the kind I prefer -- Mounted men I could have raised if authorised so to do in the territory -- of this description half the number would have been more useful & taking into consideration the length of time consumed ' the great expences incurred in those long marched they would cost the united states less. Infantry may do to build and guard forts -- Horsemen alone can pur[sue] invaders -- If however these troops arrive I will (as long as I have any thing to do with the frontier) endeavour to turn their services to the best advantage -- and at present I propose with their aid to build a fort on the ^{200 miles} ~~Memphis~~ river about 100 miles above its mouth -- The advantage of this position cannot be properly appreciated without a correct knowledge of the geography of the country, which is not to be learnt from any work now extant. The course of the Illinois is most erroneously

represented on every map that I have ~~###~~ seen and you may rely upon it that Peoria lies about direct North of Kaska.

The legislature of this territory have petitioned the President for a Battallion of mounted men & have proposed a plan for raising them -- I wd not in any event wish to make any objections to the gentleman they recommend but if I were to have any thing to do with the military operations on this frontier in the approaching season I should dislike to be embarrassed by any such plan. I wd prefer raising the men in my own way because I know I could succeed#-- I wd ask# for a regt. and would be glad to command it in person, & I wd also wish permission to employ armed boats when they could be used to advantage -- A Mr Teter who was wounded on the late expedition is disabled in his arm -- A Mr Right another of the wounded is since dead of his wounds. It is hoped that provision will be made for the former and for the family of the latter.

Some waggons and teams were necessarily pressed or employed and some kettled and axes were purchased for the use of the late detachment of militia from this Ty. one of the waggon horses that was pressed is dead. I should be glad to be informed how these things are to be paid for

The horses that were lost in the service of the U.S. are returned on the muster rolls which have been transmitted to the Paymaster of the U.S. Muster rolls of several detachments are not yet returned -- because owing to their being in service at different points they have not yet been recd. as yet the paymaster of the District has recd nothing to the militia --

I have the honor to be Very respectfully Sir Yr Mo Obt St

Ninian Edwards

The Honble
William Eustis
Secy of War
Washington City

No. 437.

[Honorable R. M. Johnson transmits a plan of a Winter campaign against the Indians, Decr. 26th 1812 -- Copy sent to Genl Harrison Decr. 26.]

Plan of a winter Campaign of mounted force against the Savages, hostile
to the U. States

The Object

1st to secure the North Western frontier from Fort Wayne to the Mississippi 300 miles a direct course --

2d To prevent the North Western Army from having convoys of provisions destroyed, when the Army shall be lessened in the Spring

3d to furnish some inducement for the neutrality of the Savages in future.

The Indians of the Iliaois have left Piorias, & will winter about Fox River which runs into Iliaois at least 600 Warriors. The Indians of the Wabash have been routed from Tippicanoe by Genl Hopkins, & have determined to concentrate their forces upon the head of Wabash at least 300 warriors. At Chicagu the Inds. have collected & will spend the winter there say 300 -- on the St. Joseph, & on L Michigan from its ~~the~~ mouth to Chicagu. Pottawattamies & others stragling 300 warriors, on the west of L Michigan up towards Green Bay a number of villages of the Winebagoes & others, where 100. 150. & 200. warriors may respectively reside, in the winter these Tribes could not collect, want of provisions, & the care of the Squaws & children would prevent. Indians have been so ~~harrassed~~ harrassed & their wants made so imperious by Russell Hopkins & Harrison, that the Spring will be more anxiously looked for, to take satisfaction on the Frontiers.

2ndly The Force & its organization

Two regiments each amounting to 640 men amply sufficient to traverse the whole country mentioned and disperse and destroy the various tribes within that circle -- good officers & brave men alone will accomplish it. A company to consist of 80 men 4 companies 1 Battalion -- 2 Battalions 1 Regiment -- the men to choose their officers -- the Governor to commission them -- A general order will answer the purpose of commissions if necessary -- the force can be raised in Kentucky in 30 days -- Take Fort Wayne as the point to commence operations -- an account of its being a more secret rout & the enemy's retreat would be cut off -- take the grand pass on Illinois 80 miles below from Piorias, which would be best on account of the contiguity of a rich settlement -- near the mouth of the Illinois which would afford forage & provisions, & the Illinois is navigable in Edwards large bullet-proof boat up to Piorias -- We take Fort Wayne as the place in supposition, and all things considered it is the best -- The army may be considered as at Fort Wayne, as all agree in the practicability of reaching to that post, there being only 85 miles frontier --

3rd Preparations for the march from Fort Wayne -- None can doubt the practicability of the campaign as to the men, if the horses be provided for in 30 lbs of the most nutritious food, Such as Bacon, biscuits, sugar, coffee &c &c. each man would have 50 days provision, this without depending on resources in the enemy's country. The horses present the only objection & this is more in imagination than reality -- Mr. Bond from Illinois & Mr. Greely of Michigan both say, a horse in that country with a quart of Salt would live the winter & not be in low order if not hardly used. The tops of trees in all seasons furnish nourishing food for horses -- these would be cut down daily for night fortifications -- the grass in some places is green. in no place (if dry) is it deprived of its nourishing quality --

Horses therefore, that would be selected would perform a journey of 30 days, 25 miles a day without grain -- from Fort Wayne. Mr. Greely says in the dead of winter traders go to the Mississippi from Detroit & no provision is ever made for horses, but depend on the natural growth -- this is without any calculation of a supply in the enemy's country -- there is a quantity of corn in every village not already ~~destroyed~~ destroyed, particularly at Chicago & its vicinity -- a number of Canadian French are here settled & with large farms-- near lake Michigan on the St. Joseph at a Potawattamee village there is a quantity of corn, so at Massinnaway on the Wabash if not destroyed by a detachment from Genl. Harrison's army-- so there is on the Illinois near a river called Fox river running into Illinois. In addition to this a horse will live 20 days upon 3 pints of corn per day the 4 first days & afterwards on one quart per day -- make a deposit of grain at St. Mary's or Fort Wayne, which could be done with ease for 20 days -- Each man could start from Fort Wayne with ten days forage for his horse & 30 for himself & no burthen, as the men would prefer to walk much to keep warm; unless in case of pursuing the enemy & forced marches. another idea, 50 or 100 packhorses of grain to march with the army to lake Michigan 6 days, at which time dismiss the packs and take all the grain & food except what would carry the men to Fort Wayne -- there would be no danger in ~~the~~ the return to Fort Wayne -- at the same time send back the sicks, the broken down the like & all incumbrances -- our numbers would be lessened some little, but we should be in better condition as to force and provision, than at Fort Wayne. The rout through the enemy's country to be governed according to circumstances -- From Fort Wayne 20 Beeves might be carried along to lessen the burthen of the horses without inconvenience 26 miles a day. The difficulties are now surmounted or if not the plan might be extended to very valuable purposes, in which case the whole force under Col.

Russell and the Governor of the territories (The force in actual pay) might cooperate By making deposits of forage and rations for 20 days at Fort Harrison & as high up the Illinois as would be safe with a company or two of rangers -- the purchases to be made and the transportation to begin, the time fixed for the main army leaving fort Wayne -- This would always be a sure fund to the army of mounted men -- they would be in 6 or 8 days of forage & provisions, & if any part of the country should be left ~~un~~ unexplored, the deposits at those places would enable the Campaign to go on again after dismissing the disabled, sick, worn down &c. as a less force would now be sufficient, the strong holds of the enemy being broken up -- This is the outline, there are details not necessary to be entered into. Ten or 12 guides can be had whose fidelity will not be doubted, well acquainted with every foot of the Indian country -- The campaign must be over by the 20th of March or first of April, or the waters of the Spring will make the country impassable for months. If the force should assemble too late it will furnish a valuable reinforcement to the North western army about that time lessened as it will be by the loss of the 4000 Kentucky Volunteers.

The force here contemplated will be valuable if raised, not a minute ought to be lost. The proposition for this campaign has made the West rejoice. They expect something to be done. If the deposits should not be used by the mounted men, other troops will use them. The ~~plan here presented~~ plan here presented in so many forms may be too complex and too expensive. It may be simplified in several particulars & perhaps it would be as well. 1st. all pack horses might be dispensed with, & also all deposits, giving the men one dollar a day to find themselves -- here the expense will be lessened 2d the deposits on the Illinois & Fort Harrison dispensed with, & if Col. Russell cooperated, he could pursue his rout in the same way, the

men finding themselves at one dollar per day which is much the cheapest force.

The expence may be under 80,000\$ -- it would not exceed 100,000 --
upon the plan in its extent -- If successful how much more usefull than to
keep troops inactive upon the frontiers --

Any verbal explanations will be given

Rh. M. Johnson

A copy

Belle Fontaine

28th December 1812

Sir,

Yesterday I had the honor to receive your Letter of the 7th October last, with its Enclosures, the cause of my not having received it sooner will be explained by the enclosed piece of a St Louis Paper, I am sorry to state that no Dependence can be placed in the Certainty of the Communications by the Mail, and I fear but little Confidence can be placed in some of the Postmasters.

Governor Howard left this about four Weeks since for Kentucky, and he informed me he some[?] expected to visit the City of Washington before he returned.

The Rivers Missouri and Mississippi above this are now closed with Ice, and it is not likely they again will be navigable before March, till which time it will be impracticable, should his Excellency Governor Howard recommend it, "To Evacuate and move the Army Stores of the Posts of Forts Osage and Madison, and I do not think it necessary either for the better Defence of the Frontier, or safety of those Garrisons, or for any other purposes they may have been established, within my knowledge, to reinforce them at this time, as believing the Public Service will not in the least be injured by waiting, I therefore shall not make any alternations in those Posts, unless some unforeseen events, renders it necessary, until I shall either have the honor to hear from you, or an opportunity offers for conferring with

Excelsior

but a better Disposition might be made of these two Garrisons, and I hope it may not be thought Arrogance in me to say, I should certainly recommend their removal, and the establishment of New Garrisons on the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers, and that such Garrisons be established in the most favorable Bends of the River, where they nearest intersect, and where good Sites may be found, the one on the Illinois at or near the Piora, and the one on the Mississippi below Stoney River, and perhaps nearly as low down as the Rapids, and that these Posts be Garrisoned with Field Officer Commands, particularly the former, and I hesitate not to say such Posts (consisted by Individual Companies, with a small Block House, or two, put in suitable places with small Commands, would have the most salutary effect in the Defence and Protection of the extensive, and exposed Frontiers of the Illinois and Mississippi Territories. And in case Fort Osage is evacuated I would think it prudent that a Subaltern and Command be left in a good Blockhouse and Stockade at what is called Boone's Salt Works, above the Osage River, where there is a considerable Settlement, at which places much of the Salt consumed in this Territory has been made.

From the Exchange of the 10th March 1874

the Territorys placed under my Command, and the Auxiliaries employed under the same, and Governor Howard, who was frequently in the Field with them, and as I had no Command myself in the Field, I presume to conclude I have been expected I participated in the Military Law on the Frontier, further than the Official Circular of your Instructions of the 7th March 1872, and the further Discharge of my Duty as District Commandant which includes the Regulars only, who have garrisoned the several Posts in the District. Therefore I have not conversed with either his Excellency Governor Howard or Governor Edwards on the Subject of the Defence of those Frontiers, and I do not know whether my Ideas may be consonant with yours, or not, but as Governor Howard intends visiting the City of Washington, and I calculate he may be there perhaps by this time, I cannot but hope you may have an opportunity of conferring with him on the Subject, so important to this Territory, whose knowledge of the situation of the Country, and the Defence necessary to be made use of against the Indians, is by no means inferior to none in the Country, and I will be able to give you more correct Ideas, of the Location of this extensive Frontier, and the most useful Military Positions, and the probable necessary Disposition of the Troops which may be employed for its future Defence and Protection.

I am with great Respect Sir Your Obedt Servt

D. Bissell Colo

The Honble.

The Secretary of War

